

THE TIMES 1785-1985 Tomorrow

Leading lady
Billie Whitelaw on her unique working relationship with Samuel Beckett

Atlantic battle
The fight to create an economy in the Falklands

Back and Forman
Director Milos Forman's return trip to Prague to film Amadeus

Up and running
Who persuaded the Eastern bloc to join western "professional" athletics?

Portfolio

No one won The Times Portfolio competition yesterday, so today's prize is increased to £4,000. Portfolio list, page 14; how to play, Information Service, back page.

Zaccaro guilty in flat deal

John Zaccaro, husband of Geraldine Ferraro, the former Democratic vice-presidential candidate, pleaded guilty yesterday to scheming to defraud in connection with the purchase and financing of five apartment buildings in New York. He will be sentenced next month but is unlikely to be jailed.

Art merger

The merging of eight London art and design colleges to form one "powerhouse", named The London Institute, is proposed in a confidential report.

Israel's pledge

Mr Shimon Peres, Israel's Prime Minister, promised that ways will be found to rescue the 12,500 black Jews of Ethiopia who are still stranded.

Poly peace deal

The National Front activist Patrick Harrington, barred from lectures by other students at North London Polytechnic, is to be taught in an annex.

Diplomat freed

Mr Eric Wehrli, the Swiss diplomat abducted last week in Beirut, was released by his militia captors last night.

Doubt over stud

The future of the National Stud is in doubt. Sir Ian Trethowan, chairman of the Horserace Betting Levy Board, told breeders at a meeting in London.

The Times

The record print order for The Times was a sell-out yesterday, although it reached 100,000 copies more than the current daily sale. Sufficient copies of the Bicentenary magazine were provided through the trade to meet that demand.

Nevertheless, some readers of The Times in various parts of the country were disappointed because they were unable to obtain a copy of yesterday's issue.

The level of demand surprised industry observers and not all trade orders could be fulfilled. In the interests of regular readers who may have been disappointed because of the surge of buying among collectors, the position regarding obtaining further supplies is being assessed.

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Letters: On pit strike, from Mr Tony Christopher, Ireland; from Lord Lytton

Leading articles: Teachers; New Caledonia; Soviet miners

Features, pages 8-10
The need for a Bill of Rights; Soviet tyranny as before, by Bernard Levin; the Thatcher-Scargill common bond; why David Owen is wrong. Spectrum: the Falklands' wind of change. Fashion: on stage with Irene Worth

Computer Horizons, page 19
British micros in Moscow - is the US easing its high-tech embargo, information technology - a no-go area for government

Classified, pages 22 to 24
Legal appointments

Obituary, page 12
Mr Russell Page, Mr Hugh Nicholson, Mr Ryokichi Minobe

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NCB attitude to talks hardens as miners return

● National Coal Board officials reassessed their earlier willingness to resume negotiations with the NUM as more than 1,200 miners abandoned the strike

● Mr Arthur Scargill, NUM president, dismissed the news of the return to work figures yesterday as a "disaster" for the NCB

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

More than 1,200 miners abandoned the 44-week pit strike yesterday, prompting the National Coal Board to hurriedly reassess its willingness to resume negotiations with the National Union of Mineworkers over colliery closures.

Managers were taken aback by the unexpectedly high numbers returning and are placing less emphasis on the prospect of renewing talks.

The board expects to be able to restart production at Kellingley, its biggest pit, in Yorkshire today.

Mr Michael Eaton, its chief spokesman, said: "We are encouraged by the number of people returning to work. We have been disappointed by the attitude of some of the leaders of the NUM over the weekend, as they have restated their stance of 'no movement' from the March 6, 1984 position - and give us no opportunity to enter into a new round of negotiations."

"We therefore hope that the accelerating return to work continues, since we wish to see an end to this serious dispute at the earliest possible time."

"We have two hopes: that the return to work will continue apace, and the fact that there is a substantial return to work will influence the leadership of the NUM, hopefully as soon as their next meeting this Thursday, to reconsider their stance and by accepting the fact that the cost of production is an

● Nine striking Derbyshire miners were jailed for setting fire in August to five buses used to take working miners through picket lines

● The executive of the NUM meets in Sheffield on Thursday to determine its next step in the 10-month old mining dispute

important factor in considering the future of the industry give us an opportunity to return to negotiations."

The miners' executive meets in Sheffield on Thursday to determine its next step. Board hopes of a change of attitude are pinned on rather forlorn expectations that the centre-left coalition that has consistently backed industrial action is on the point of disintegration.

Privately, however, the board has scant expectation that its appeals to end the hardship and return to work will fall on fertile ground.

Letters 11

Yesterday's return to work was the highest figure for a Monday since the big surge of November 19. Since the beginning of November the board calculates that nearly 19,000 men have ended the strike.

It estimates that 71,000 (38 per cent) of NUM members are now "not on strike", though in some areas that figure is officially admitted to include all those absent, including men who are sick.

Miners are working at 148 of the 174 collieries; 71 are producing coal.

● Speaking in south Wales for the first time since the winter came to the aid of striking miners, Mr Arthur Scargill yesterday described the news that more than 1,000 "new

faces" had returned to work as a disaster for the board (Tim Jones writes).

But despite the bitter cold, once regarded as an ally, the NUM president appeared to be uncharacteristically subdued as he emerged from a two-hour meeting with miners from the western end of the south Wales coalfield.

Mr Scargill had faced a tough question and answer session behind closed doors after his rallying address. He was left in no doubt that many of the 500 men in the audience thought the time had come to settle.

After his address many miners failed to join in the customary standing ovation to their leader.

Most of the miners were from the Cynheidre colliery, which has been a focus of the return to work movement in the militant coalfield. Of the 16,600 miners in the area, 140 returned to work yesterday.

In uncompromising language, Mr Scargill said the union had never put one single demand or claim on the table.

According to Mr Scargill, 140,000 miners are on strike, more than when the dispute started last March. The coal board estimates that 71,000 of the 180,000 miners are back at work.

Mr Philip Weekes, the south Wales area director, accused Mr Scargill of displaying "an utterly cynical disregard" for the coalfield's future.

Kinnock blocked by left

By Julian Haviland
Political Editor

The latest attempt by Mr Neil Kinnock to root the Militant Tendency and other far-left factions out of the Labour Party was blocked yesterday during the party leader's absence in Mexico.

The terms of reference of a proposed working party, which Mr Kinnock, Mr Roy Hattersley, his deputy, and the centre-left majority on Labour's national executive committee agreed last month, were rewritten by a sub-committee so that all references to Militant were removed.

With several of Mr Kinnock's chief supporters absent, and a full turn-out by the left, the Kinnock formulation was defeated by nine votes to five.

But the ultra-left was defeated in the party's local government committee, when a resolution was adopted binding Labour-controlled local authorities which have fallen foul of the Government's rate-capping legislation to collective negotiation with the government rather than confrontation.

But neither man had a vote, although they argued against it, a resolution was put from the chair, by Mr David Blunkett, leader of Sheffield City Council, and passed unanimously. Its terms will now be used by the leadership to isolate the few Labour-led authorities who are contemplating unlawful steps.

The proceedings of the local government committee were marred when some ultra-left

Continued on back page, col 1

Surrogate couple's background sought

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Barnet social services were yesterday trying to find out more about the anonymous couple who plan to receive "Baby C", the little girl born to Mrs C last week, as pressure on the government for early legislation to outlaw commercial surrogate motherhood agencies continued to mount.

Mr Alan Gors, director of social services for Barnet, said they were having "some success", but the situation was complicated because the adoptive parents apparently come from abroad - they are believed to be American.

Although the department was moving "as quickly as possible", Mr Gors said, it was extremely unlikely its inquiries would be complete by Friday when a juvenile court will have to decide the next stage in the baby's future.

Barnet is likely to ask International Social Service, a Geneva based voluntary organisation that provides social work reports for cross-country adoptions to see if the prospective parents are "reliable in every sense of the word", Mr Gors said.

At Friday's hearing, however, it may be possible for the father of the child to challenge Barnet's place of safety order. The council may at that stage seek an interim care order, possibly seeking to place the child with foster parents for a time.

Lady Warnock, who last year headed the government's inquiry into artificial reproduction yesterday welcomed

government moves to legislate saying such action was "very urgent".

But she criticised Barnet for seeking a place of safety order saying that in this case the surrogate arrangement should go through.

"As far as I understand it, given the law as it is at the moment no-one has committed any offence and I cannot help feeling sorry for the commissioning parents who at least are being kept waiting before receiving the baby," she said.

Mr Gors, however, defended his department's decision, saying the child's interests were paramount and the alternative had been "to let the child to go to a completely unknown set of people in an unknown country."

Lady Warnock said yesterday she hoped the government's legislation would make both commercial and non-commercial surrogacy illegal by making it an offence for agencies or doctors to arrange surrogate pregnancies and for newspapers or magazines to carry advertisements from individuals or couples seeking surrogacy.

There were indications yesterday that the government might get a bill through more easily if it restricted the ban to commercial arrangements to be considered later.

Legal background, page 2

Princess Margaret has operation on lung



Operation success: Princess Margaret, who is recovering in hospital after her operation on Sunday.

Removed tissue 'innocent' doctors reveal

By Alan Hamilton

Princess Margaret was said yesterday to be in a satisfactory condition at the Brompton Hospital, London, after an operation on Sunday to remove a small area of her left lung.

A bulletin issued yesterday, signed by Dr John Batten, the Queen's physician, and Mr Matthias Paneth, senior surgeon registrar at the hospital, said that the removed tissue proved to be "innocent", and that the Princess was expected to return home within a week.

The Princess, who is aged 54, was admitted to the hospital on Saturday afternoon from her home at Kensington Palace, by prior arrangement. The Brompton specialises in chest and lung diseases; the Princess, a heavy smoker, has a history of bronchial illness.

The Queen and the Queen Mother, who are on holiday at Sandringham, are being kept informed of the Princess's condition, and there was obvious relief yesterday that the operation had apparently not revealed anything more serious. A Buckingham Palace spokesman said: "The Queen is very pleased at the satisfactory outcome. Members of the Royal Family will be very relieved at the news."

Lord Snowdon, the Princess's former husband, said at his London home yesterday: "I am very relieved that everything went all right and that it was not something serious. I hope the Princess will be back home very soon."

Viscount Linley and Lady

Sarah Armstrong-Jones, the Princess's two children, returned from a holiday in Venice last night.

Princess Margaret's health has caused concern in the past: she was treated for bronchitis in 1977, and for hepatitis and pneumonia the next year. In 1980 she had a skin lesion surgically removed. Her father, King George VI, died in 1952 of a coronary thrombosis, possibly precipitated by a preceding operation for lung cancer.

Our Medical Correspondent writes: The fact that the operation was performed on a Sunday would indicate some sense of concern on the part of the Princess's doctors, and almost certainly means that an X-ray showed on her lung. Malignancy had to be excluded. The statement that only a small area of her lung was removed suggests that the lesion was benign; a malignant tumour normally involves the removal of at least a lobe, a much larger area of tissue.

There is, in all likelihood, an area of chronic disease at the base of the lung, a small area of collapse following obstruction of a small bronchial tube. It would appear on an X-ray as a shadow which might be masking a malignant area.

Small areas of lung are occasionally removed if they have been affected by a chronic infective condition known as bronchiectasis. That would be associated with chronic bronchitis, and would be made worse by heavy smoking.

Three die as freeze takes hold

By Barbara Day

Travellers in South-eastern England face another day of delay and disruption today as the freezing weather also affecting most of Europe was forecast to continue.

Temperatures are unlikely to rise above freezing point today and there is more snow on the way, according to the London Weather Centre.

The RAC emphasized the double hazard of fresh snow disguising hard-packed ice beneath it and urged motorists to observe advisory speed limits.

Three people died in the blazing wreckage of their car after an accident involving two lorries on the M1 near Northampton yesterday.

The fire was so fierce that nothing could be done to free the two men and a woman before the vehicle was burnt out.

The bodies were so badly burnt that a police spokesman said there would be difficulty identifying them. The car, a Vauxhall saloon, was registered in Staffordshire but was heading towards London.

The spokesman could not confirm a suggestion that the car had stopped before it was hit by a lorry. He said the car was hit by a second commercial vehicle before bursting into flames.

The accident, between the Northamptonshire turn-off and the Watford gap, was on a stretch of motorway reduced to two lanes by repairs to the offside lane. The spokesman said motorway accidents tended to increase when there were restrictions due to repairs. He did not think the bad weather played any part in the crash.

The accident happened during the peak midday period and

Turn back page, col 1

Hint of US compromise on anti-satellite weapons

From Richard Owen, Geneva

The first round of Soviet-American arms talks ended yesterday with no sign that the two sides are nearer compromise on the critical issue of "Star Wars" space weapons, although there were unconfirmed reports that the Americans are offering to make concessions on anti-satellite weapons.

American officials, noting that the Russians have had an anti-satellite weapons system (Asat) since 1972, say Soviet proposals for an anti-satellite treaty lack provisions for effective verification. But there is room for agreement on Asat systems as distinct from the Star Wars anti-missile defence system which Mr Reagan regards as sacrosanct.

Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, and Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, appeared in affable mood, even joking with each other about how best to take notes as a record of their talks.

Angry workers storm British cruise ship

Madrid - The British cruise ship Sea Princess, with 680 tourists on board, ran into trouble as it docked at the northern Spanish port of Vigo (Richard Wigg writes). Local shipyard workers, threatened with redundancy, tried to storm on board.

About 50 workers from the Ascon yard had to be stopped by hastily-summoned detachments of police, who charged repeatedly and fired tear gas.

The tourists were unable to leave the ship to go on excursions and the town's business community estimated that it lost £150,000.

How Julie may skate again

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

An 11-year-old girl suffering from bone cancer has been saved by a remarkable operation in which surgeons removed the affected thigh section of her leg and replaced it with the lower part of the limb.

The girl, Julie Hunt, of Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, should be able to go back to ice skating, her favourite hobby, after an artificial lower leg and foot has been fitted, one of the surgeons said yesterday.

Julie is the first person in Britain to undergo the operation, which was pioneered in Austria. Now Sunderland General Hospital, where the operation took place, is offering to help other young cancer victims in the same way.

"We hope patients who are suitable will be referred to us not only from this region, but from anywhere in the country," said Mr Roger Checketts, consultant orthopaedic surgeon

at the hospital. "We would be very happy to help."

Julie's ankle and foot will be used as a knee joint, and a false lower leg and foot attached to allow her complete freedom of movement.

During the nine-hour operation, Julie's right leg was completely separated from her body for about 90 minutes. The complete calf, ankle and foot section were separated from the diseased upper part, moved up and connected to her hip to replace her thigh and knee. All that was retained of her original thigh were the nerves, blood supply system, and tendons.

Mr Checketts said the ankle and knee were both hinge joints, so in replacing her knee with her ankle, all that had been required was to turn the foot round so it bent backwards.

Normally, patients like Julie would have had to have the whole leg amputated to save

life. In Julie's case a very high amputation would have been necessary and an artificial limb would have been almost impossible to fix, Mr Checketts said.

This type of surgery was pioneered in Austria. The Sunderland operation was directed by an Amsterdam surgeon, Dr Jan Van Der Eiken, who has carried out 13 similar operations and who flew to Britain free of charge to take part.

Julie had been found to have a malignant tumour and underwent chemotherapy at Newcastle Royal Victoria Infirmary. When it was found that the cancer could be contained in the thigh section, Mr Checketts and colleagues at Sunderland decided to try the operation and invited Dr Van Der Eiken to join them.

"We are hoping she will have excellent mobility. This operation means she will be able to lead a perfectly normal life," said Mr Checketts.



Smiling through: Julie Hunt, who may be able to skate again after the revolutionary operation.

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Striking miners jailed for setting fire to NCB buses

Nine striking miners and a farmworker were jailed yesterday for setting fire to five National Coal Board buses used to take working miners through picket lines.

Mr Richard Inglis, for the prosecution, told Derby Crown Court that the men had been drinking together at a club in New Houghton, near Mansfield, in August.

Then they went to the premises of J Thompson Engineering, at Plesley Vale, Derbyshire, where five buses were splashed with petrol and set alight. The vehicles were destroyed and damage was estimated at £25,000; and £1,000 damage was done to the premises.

Judge Woods said: "The community from which you come will condemn what you did. None of you made any attempt to inform the fire brigade of what was happening."

All the accused, who committed the offence, were living in a mining village of New Houghton at the time. David Gaunt, aged 18, was jailed for three years; Kevin Beal, aged 21; Steven Goodall, aged 22, a farmworker; David James, aged 21; Paul Jones, aged 21; Ian Nesbitt, aged 33; David Mason, aged 19; Michael Southwell, aged 19; Peter Pearson, aged 24 and Philip Sterland, aged 18, were all jailed for two and a half years.

Gaunt was said to have taken the petrol.

All the miners were employed at Shirebrook colliery, Derbyshire.

Two months after fire severely damaged the £40,000 home of Mr Stuart Spencer, a working miner, the police have not uncovered any direct evidence to link with striking miners.

But at least two people, a striker and a woman, have been reported to the Director of Public Prosecutions under the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act 1875 for besetting the bungalow, in Waggon Lane, Upton, near Pontefract, West Yorkshire, three days before the blaze.

The blaze occurred while Mr Spencer and his family were living elsewhere after receiving threats following his decision to return to work as a ventilation engineer at Wheldale colliery, near Castleford.

The coal board confirmed yesterday that it intended to pay the cost of rebuilding the home because the house was insured as Mr Spencer had fallen behind with his payments during the strike.

The Yorkshire board is to underwrite the losses of miners who return to work. "As far as we're concerned they've been loyal to us and we will be loyal to them."

Dispute over scale of return to work

By Ronald Faux

There was sharp disagreement yesterday between the National Coal Board and the National Union of Mineworkers in Scotland over the scale of the return to work after the Christmas and New Year break.

According to the coal board, another 120 miners returned to pits for the first time since the strike began 10 months ago, bringing the total in Scotland to 2,678 working miners.

At Bilston Glen, the largest pit and the centre of the return to work in Scotland, a thousand men are now said to be working. At dawn a few pickets were waiting as the working miners drove through the picket lines in cars and in buses without incident.

The coal board said it was pleased with the result but the NUM said the figures were a figment of the board's imagination.

Mr Michael McGahey, vice-president of the union, said it remained determined to win the struggle. He was with 14 Labour MPs on the picket line at Polkemmet colliery in West Lothian which is threatened with flooding.

A union spokesman said that the massive drift back to work that the coal board had hoped for had not materialised and that the number going to work at Bilston Glen was 100 fewer than before the Christmas break. Any return to work at Polkemmet was because of miners turning up to qualify for redundancy payments because of the uncertain future of the colliery, he said.

The coal board has appointed Mr Anthony Hewitt, aged 48, an accountant, to create new opportunities and jobs for redundant miners in areas where unemployment is already high.

Mr Sidney Vincent, the Lancashire miners' leader criticized last month for taking a six-day holiday in Tenerife, won a vote of confidence from his union's area executive yesterday. Letters, page 12

Study backs birth control for teens

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Teenage girls who attend family-planning clinics are not promiscuous and there should be no restrictions on prescribing contraceptives to them, according to the findings of a newly-published study.

Girls who go to clinics are likely to be working or in full-time education rather than unemployed, and to see their sexual relationship as serious and steady, says Mrs Jean Tobin, a hospital consultant, who studied 100 such girls.

"There is no place for restricting or imposing conditions for prescriptions of effective contraceptives to this predominantly responsible group of sexually-active teenagers," says Mrs Tobin, a consultant of genito-urinary medicine at St Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth.

Detailed sexual history was obtained from 100 girls, seven of them under 16, attending a family-planning clinic as new patients from January 1979. They were followed up for an average of 30 months.

When the study ended, in June 1983, the group was found to have a high continuity rate both with their original partner and with the chosen method of contraception.

There was a low incidence of unplanned pregnancy or multiple partners. Even in the under-16 age group, few problems relating to confidentiality arose. Ninety-five of the 100 were unmarried.

The results of the study are published in the *British Journal of Family Planning*, which is the journal of the National Association of Family Planning Doctors.

Russia slow to honour promises to Kinnock

By Richard Dowden

Mr Neil Kinnock is angry over the slow response of the Soviet authorities to implement promises made to him on human rights cases, his personal assistant, Mr Charles Clarke, said yesterday. He added that as soon as the Labour leader returns from Central America he will seek a meeting with the Soviet Ambassador.

Of about 30 human rights and family reunion cases raised by Mr Kinnock during his visit to Moscow in November, the Soviet government has acted on only two despite promises of positive action on five cases. Mr Kinnock was also promised that decisions would be made on a further seven cases, but he has still not been told.

According to Mr Clarke, Mr Kinnock held "full and frank" discussions on the cases with Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Politburo member, during his visit to London.

Mr Clarke said that in one of the cases raised by Mr Kinnock, the person for whom he had requested an exit visa was now in Britain, and in another a prisoner had been transferred from prison to internal exile.

In a third case the mother and grandmother of a Russian émigré living in Britain were refused an exit visa after the Russians had promised a positive response.

Mr Oleg Pionov, who came to Britain in 1973 and now lives in Ilford, Essex, said yesterday that his mother Riisa, aged 64, and his grandmother, Olga, nearly 87, had been trying to obtain an exit visa to join him since 1979. His mother is completely crippled by Parkinson's disease and is cared for by his grandmother in a Moscow flat.

The authorities rejected their visa application last summer and have twice refused their appeals, the second time in December after Mr Kinnock had raised their case.

It is understood that their case was also raised by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Foreign Secretary, during Mr Gorbachev's visit.

The Queen top TV attraction

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The Home Office plans to fund four schemes for reparation by offenders to victims as an experiment with a view to including nationwide new measures in a criminal justice Bill.

The Government is considering making a reparation order available to the courts as a separate sanction, so that offenders can be brought face to face with the human consequences of their crimes.

The experiments being planned will help to work out practical details of the schemes. One issue is the extent to which offenders should do reparation work for the victims they have wronged, or whether there might be a reparation corps locally, which an offender would join on sentence.

The idea of a reparation order in its own right reflects the concern of Mr Leon Brittan, Home Secretary, for the victims of crime.

A criminal justice Bill has been planned for this Parliament. It will also enable the Government to carry out its intention of giving courts more effective powers to deprive criminals of their profits.

Three forthcoming private member's Bills are to be backed by the Government. One is the Controlled Drugs (Penalties) Bill, which would increase from 14 years to life the maximum penalty for trafficking in dangerous drugs such as heroin.

The others are the Sexual Offences Bill, introduced by Miss Janet Fookes, Conservative MP for Plymouth Drake, and the Intoxicating Substances (Supply) Bill, which would ban the sale of glue-sniffing kits to people under 18.

The papers from the Foreign Office file show that Whitehall was well pleased with its intervention. A 1954 letter signed by Mr William Barker, counsel in Oslo, to Mr Jack Nicolls, an assistant under-secretary in the Foreign Office in London, said that it was "valuable to have a Labour voice from Britain which does not always echo the party line on foreign affairs".

At the time Mr Healey was Labour MP for south-east Leeds. But, while acknowledging his contributions to *Arbeiderbladet*, a left-wing newspaper in Oslo, until he joined a Labour cabinet in 1964, he says that he was unaware of any help.

Sir William Barker, who eventually became an assistant under-secretary before his retirement, said yesterday that he did not remember the contents of the letter.

Nevertheless, it would have been "the most natural thing" in the world for the Norwegian government to have sought an opinion from the Foreign Office on Mr Healey's qualifications as a newspaper correspondent. At the time relations between the British and Norwegian governments were "extraordinarily close", Sir William said.



Forty years on: Mr Peter Locke, a Second World War pilot from Wigan, now living in Canada photographed yesterday with Mr Seamus Cane who, when he was 11, raised the alarm when Mr Locke's Wildcat aircraft crashed in Ballinerry Lough, Northern Ireland, from where it was recovered last year (top).

Reparation order likely for courts

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

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Drive to raise milk output

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Milk production in England and Wales is nearly 10 per cent down on last year and nearly 3 per cent below the quota set by the EEC, according to the Milk Marketing Board (four Agriculture Correspondents).

The board, which has spent the past nine months advising farmers how to come to terms with quotas, is urging them to boost production. Output needs to be increased by 261 million litres between now and the end of March, to avoid the risk of Britain being allocated a still smaller quota in the next round.

Man on bomb plot charge

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Peter Thomas Lynch, aged 45, held since New Year's eve under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, was yesterday charged with unlawfully and maliciously conspiring to cause an explosion in the United Kingdom.

Mr Lynch, from Runcorn Road, Balsall Heath, Birmingham, was remanded in custody until Friday when he appeared before magistrates in Liverpool.

Speeding car left police in a blur

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Brian Garvey, director of an electronics company, who reached one of the highest speeds recorded on the M5 - 153mph in a Porsche - was banned from driving for six months and fined £250 by magistrates at Taunton Somerset, yesterday. He had denied the offence, and said another Porsche was responsible.

Mr Richard Blake, for the prosecution, said Garvey, of Ashley Road, Walton-on-Thames, travelled so fast that police were unable to read his number plate.

Court hearing will test pay pact for surrogate mothering

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The court hearing on Friday over the future of Baby C will be the first test of the legality of a commercial surrogate mothering contract.

The issue, described by lawyers as a "legal minefield", has never been fully aired in Britain although there have been several related cases in the United States.

As the law in Britain stands however, lawyers predict that the courts would be most unlikely to uphold the legality or validity of the contract or agreement between the surrogate mother and the child's natural father. This agreement is effectively being challenged by the local authority.

The issue has been complicated by the fact that money was involved, and the surrogate mother agreed to be artificially inseminated and bear the child for £6,500. The agency which arranged the deal is due to receive a similar sum.

Had no payment been made, and both parties co-operated, the baby's adoption by father and stepmother could have been a straightforward procedure, according to Miss Diana Parker, a solicitor writing in the *Journal of Family Law*. As it is, there is the question of possible illegal acts.

The case raises several issues: the procedure adopted by the local authority in successfully seeking a "place of safety order" for the baby girl; the rights, if any, of the natural father and the steps he can take to establish any claim; and the question of breaches of the criminal law.

Lawyers yesterday criticized the "place of safety" order, obtained under the Children and Young Persons Act 1969 as inappropriate, and possibly illegal. The order was granted at a private hearing, and a reason for it has not been published.

Professor Michael Freeman, reader in law at University College London, said that in his view it was unlikely that any of the necessary conditions for such an order, such as that the child was in moral danger of being ill-treated or neglected, had been satisfied.

Another academic, Mr John Hall, family law lecturer and fellow of St John's College, Cambridge, said he found the order "slightly surprising" and that a better course of action would have been to make the baby a ward of court.

Any decision involving the child, such as its removal by the natural father and his wife, would then need the High Court's specific authority, he said.

He added that normally a child which was the subject of legal proceedings would not be identified.

If the juvenile court on Friday discharges the place of safety order and makes the baby a ward of court, the Official Solicitor could become involved. Even if the father is granted custody, the Official Solicitor might be required to keep an eye on its upbringing until the age of 18.

The Official Solicitor is an officer of the Supreme Court who can be called upon to protect the interests of children.

Alternatively the court might put the child in the care of the local authority.

Court proceedings over the baby's future will raise the question of the natural father's rights. Under present law, the child has been born illegitimate and all parental rights are vested solely in the surrogate mother. Those rights cannot be given away by agreement, and the only course is to apply for adoption, or in the case of the father, to apply for custody or access.

But the father, who probably never contemplated having to go through complex legal proceedings to secure his rights, faces a plethora of difficulties: any application by him or his wife for adoption could fall foul of the Adoption Act 1953, under which it is a criminal offence to pay for an adopted child.

"The father has no rights in law," Mr Hall said. "At most he is the putative father of an illegitimate child, and all he can do is apply for custody which the court may or may not grant."

If the natural mother objects, the courts would be unlikely to back the father's claim. In the only English case on the issue in 1978 a prostitute who agreed to bear a man's child for him and his future wife subsequently refused to release the child. The father applied for access. This was granted by the court but the decision was later overturned by the Court of Appeal.

There is secondly the question of a possible common law offence of baby-selling. Miss Parker says: "So long as money changes hands in connection with the custody of children, there must be a risk that a common law offence of baby-selling could be discovered and revived."

There has been a steady increase in the number of careerist MPs over the past 30 years. I do not use the term disparagingly. Most of the great figures in British political history devoted themselves single-mindedly to politics. But there were always in the past a good many members who were not looking for office. For them the prestige and interest of being an MP were enough.

Their numbers, however, have been dwindling. More and more MPs these days have come into Parliament to have run the country. They have often had to give up promising careers elsewhere and if they do not get office they feel that it has not been worth it. Yet the laws of parliamentary arithmetic dictate that most of them, will be disappointed when their party has an overwhelming majority.

Frustration on the backbenches will be all the greater when political management is inept. Time and again one hears the complaint that the Government is out of touch with its followers. "They do not listen to us", is the accusation that is repeatedly levelled at ministers.

It will require a considerable change of style on the part of the Government if the conditions that provoked rebellion before Christmas are no longer to be there. But what if this greater assertiveness of Conservative MPs does continue? Will it be damaging to the cause of good government?

It means that whatever objections there may be to a particular project are more likely to be heard before the legislation is passed. There is a greater chance of correcting mistakes before they are enshrined in law.

Automatic rebellion against whatever a government may propose is indeed disruptive. But a selective readiness to revolt by back-benchers who have not been convinced by the argument helps to make ministers more politically sensitive. That is something for which this Government ought to be grateful.

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Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

One question will dominate the thoughts of ministers when the House of Commons resumes tomorrow. Will their backbenchers be in such a rebellious mood as they were before the recess? Or will their spirits have been soothed and chastened by the company of their families and a few sharp words from their constituency supporters?

The propensity to revolt before Christmas was remarkable. Conservative rebels forced the Government to change its policy on student grants and to delay further consideration of the Civil Aviation Bill. They were only narrowly defeated in the attempt to replace the Greater London Council with another directly elected body for London, and gravely embarrassed the Government over housing cuts. Beneath those specific grievances there has been the rumbling of a deeper discontent over unemployment.

The remarkable feature of those rebellions is that they came from so many different sections of the party. It was not just the senior sours or the confirmed wets expressing themselves again.

The most favoured explanation is that the experience of the past few months bears out Mr Francis Pym's dictum that large majorities are not good for governments. I share that view, but I do not believe it is the sole reason for the new mood. Two other factors need to be taken into account as well.

The first is the fact that the Government has been in power for a long time. It is the experience of the past few months bears out Mr Francis Pym's dictum that large majorities are not good for governments. I share that view, but I do not believe it is the sole reason for the new mood. Two other factors need to be taken into account as well.

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Merger of London's art colleges would create powerhouse in Europe

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

A merger of eight London art and design colleges to form one powerhouse, to be called The London Institute, is proposed in a draft report from a steering group set up by the Inner London Education Authority.

The merger, which is being discussed, would create almost certainly the premier art and design institution in Europe, and possibly the most powerful art institute in the world. The authority's further and higher education sub-committee is to decide about its creation on February 13.

The proposal is to merge Camberwell, St Martin's, Central and Chelsea art colleges with the London colleges of fashion, print and furniture, and with the College of Distributive Trades, that would bring together 3,000 to 10,000 students and hundreds of lecturers.

It is envisaged that The London Institute will be set up next January and that it will decide how it will organize itself whether, for example, it will continue to operate on the present college sites, how many

departments will remain and which lecturers will be kept on. Mr Philip Hunter, deputy education officer for the authority in charge of further, higher and continuing education, emphasized that the merger was not about cutting art and design education in London.

The authority hopes the new institute will create opportunities by, for instance, investing in computer-aided design. That cannot be done on any scale in the present system.

"We are about thrusting vigour, meeting the needs of the 1980s and 1990s," Mr Hunter said. "We have to gear ourselves up so that the employers of London look to the institute as a powerhouse and so that the people who live and work in London look to it for the courses they need."

"With a really powerful set-up like this it is more likely that we could protect ourselves from cuts. But as needs are identified there will have to be changes and that will mean re-ordering priorities. The nature of those changes

worries the National Association for Teachers in Further and Higher Education. The London region of the association insists that the changes will mean job losses, and it wants the authority to allow three extra months for consultation.

"The authority is steamrolling the whole thing," the association's London region spokesman said. "This is rationalization."

The national advisory body for local authority higher education, which disburses funds to polytechnics and colleges, is putting the squeeze on art and design nationally and an college closures are being suggested.

The report says that each of the present eight colleges would keep their names and identity, but would also use the title, The London Institute. It proposes a governing body of 56, with each college having five representatives.

The other governors would be appointed by the authority and the institute.

Hearing told rabbi's jokes went too far

By Sheila Beardall

A rabbi's sexual innuendoes during services and his attempts to distance himself from his flock led council members of Southgate Progressive Synagogue, north London, to dismiss him, an industrial tribunal in London was told yesterday.

The tribunal was told that although Rabbi Clifford Cohen, aged 36, was a great entertainer with a ready wit, he did not know when to stop. The hearing into Rabbi Cohen's claim that he was unfairly dismissed started yesterday amid an atmosphere of embarrassment that the synagogue's affairs should be displayed so publicly. It is thought to be the first time a rabbi has been dismissed from one of Britain's 23 progressive synagogues.

Two senior members of the council described how Rabbi Cohen's refusal to visit sick and old people, his comments during services, and difficulties in getting in touch with him eventually led to his dismissal.

Mr Cecil Reese, a vice-presi-

dent of the synagogue and former chairman, said Rabbi Cohen had taken over nine years ago from Rabbi Jacob, whose priority had been contact with the congregation of 800 people.

"Rabbi Cohen is a great entertainer, a ready wit and a likeable personality," he said. "But unfortunately it never seemed to occur to him that some things should not be said on some occasions."

"One Friday evening a young girl of nine went to get a glass of wine during the service and she tripped a little. Rabbi Cohen's response was to say 'One drink and she's anybody's.' This was felt by a lot of people to be completely out of place."

Mr John Metcalf, the council's legal representative, said that at bar mitzvah Rabbi Cohen had commented that through life the young man would learn about "this, that and the other - especially the other."

Mr Reese said the last straw was when Rabbi Cohen moved house and refused to give his new address and telephone number to most of the council and congregation because he was about to start a four-month sabbatical and did not want to be disturbed.

"It would be a disaster for the rabbi to return to the synagogue," Mrs Doris Reese, also vice-president and former chairman of the synagogue, complained that Rabbi Cohen left his telephone answering machine switched on even when at home. His excuse was that he went to bed late, and so did not want to be disturbed.

She also had complaints about the readings from the Bible.

The hearing continues today.



Rabbi Cohen: Great entertainer

Police chief said to be on hit list

By Our Crime Reporter

Police are investigating an alleged "assassination list" said to be drawn up by Irish terrorists and targeted at a number of British security officials including Mr Kenneth Oxford, Chief Constable of Merseyside.

The possibility of a threat to targets on the British mainland was passed from Ireland to English officers late last year. One potential victim of what has been seen as a new Provisional IRA bombing campaign is a senior officer in the SAS.

He and other possible victims are said to have been placed on a target list after terrorists began searching for public figures who would not have the tight security which now surrounds VIPs such as ministers.

Bishop to retire

The Bishop of Norwich, the Rt Rev Maurice Wood, is to retire on August 26, his sixty-ninth birthday. He is a leading evangelist, having preached abroad and promoted Mr Billy Graham's tours in Britain.

More authors share in library fees scheme

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The average payment to authors under the Public Lending Right scheme has fallen by £5 to £216 because more authors are eligible for payments.

Statistics issued yesterday by the Registrar of Public Lending Right, Mr John Sumson, show that the number of books entitled to earn PLR payments has risen from 28 per cent to 32 per cent of all library borrowings, mainly because of the interest of new authors in the scheme. At the same time, the money available for distribution to authors has risen only marginally, from £1,588,000 to £1,662,000.

Although the payments to individual authors are not disclosed Mr Sumson confirmed that there has been little change in the tastes of British library goers. The most popular author is still Catherine Cookson, who had 27 titles among the 100 most borrowed books, and other popular writers include Wilbur Smith and Victoria Holt.

The rate payable for each loan will be 9.2p, compared with last year's 1.02p, and 18

per cent of the 9,395 authors registered for PLR will receive nothing. The statistics on authors' earnings show a large rise in the number of writers receiving between £1 and £99, from 3,878 to 5,278. At the top end of the scale, the number receiving the maximum payment of £5,000 has risen by one to 47.

Mr Sumson said: "There will be disappointment for some people this year because the scheme, which is a small size, has to be spread over more authors. It should be made up next year because Lord Gowrie (Minister for the Arts) has added an extra £750,000 to the fund."

The eligibility for PLR from next year has been extended to include translators, editors and compilers, and foreign citizens living in the United Kingdom. Mr Sumson said that the extension would not outweigh the expansion of the fund through the extra money from the Office of Arts and Libraries.

PLR payments are based on borrowings from 16 sample libraries throughout the country which are used to calculate the books borrowed in Britain's 645 million annual library loans.

The jam market, on which just under £70 million a year, is also in decline. This is because of a reaction to rich, sweet foods and drink, exacerbated by fears about dental health and the expansion of alternative snack and dessert products.

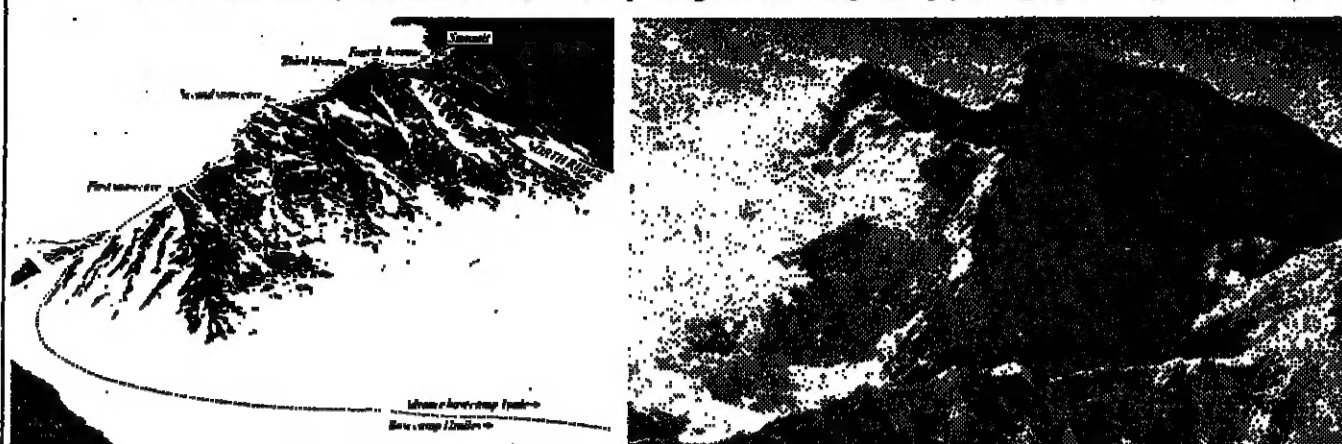
The move away from heavy, dark, sweets food has particularly hit demand for syrup and treacle with sales down about a quarter since 1978 and an expected further decline of 3 per cent a year. This sector, which includes chocolate spreads and peanut butter, is worth about £20 million a year.

Sandwich spreads are more popular, attracting annual spending of £7.3 million. Meat and fish spreads sales saw some growth during the recession but are now levelling out at about £45 million in value annually, the survey says. Sales of meat extract spreads, worth around £18 million a year in sales, are likely to decline by up to 2 per cent a year, it is forecast.

Market Assessment Product Group Report on Spreads, Market Assessment Publications, 2 Duncan Terrace, London N1 8BZ: £150.



Ready to go: Mrs Julie Tullis being supported yesterday by members of the expedition (left to right): Mr John Tinker, Mr David Bicknell, Mr Chris Watts, Mr Andy Greig and Mr Terry Dailey (Photograph: Harry Kerr).



Woman in bid to conquer Everest ridge

By Patricia Clough

A British mother of two could be the first person to climb Everest, at 29,028 feet the world's highest mountain, by its most difficult route.

Mrs Julie Tullis, aged 45, of Taunbridge Wells, has been chosen as a member of a 16-strong British expedition which this spring will tackle the two-and-a-half-mile route at the north-east ridge, the last route yet to be conquered.

Mrs Tullis, who forms a high altitude team with Mr Kurt Diemberger, an Austrian who will also be in the party, has twice climbed almost to the summit of the world's second highest mountain, the K2.

Mr Mal Duff of Edinburgh,

the expedition leader told a press conference yesterday that if Mrs Tullis stood up to the altitude and strain as well as the others there was no reason why she should not be one of the two climbers eventually chosen to tackle the summit itself.

Mrs Tullis, whose husband Terry teaches mountaineering and who has two sons aged 20 and 22, said women often had a slight disadvantage at high altitudes because of water retention at certain points in the menstrual cycle but this did not affect her. She was looking forward to the climb because "mountaineering is a kind of addiction".

The group expects to fly to Peking on March 6 and to travel through Lhasa, the capital of Tibet, to establish base camp on a desolate plateau at about 17,000 feet, passing three times on the way to acclimatise.

With the help of 60 yaks they will move forward to establish an advance base camp from which to tackle the ridge. From there, the route will take in four stops, two in snow caves and two in bivouacs, and three extremely difficult pinacles which will involve, Mr Duff said, advanced technical climbing.

At some stages, the party would have to use oxygen, he

said. Whether they manage to conquer the summit would depend to a great extent on the weather. Although the period between March and June was most favourable for climbing, there could be temperatures of minus 35°C and winds of up to 100 miles an hour. Nevertheless, he said, "they've got a very good chance".

The expedition, which will involve logistics such as 35,000 meals from 94 different suppliers and 59 different items of special clothing and equipment as well as one and a half tons of gear, will be sponsored by Pilkington Brothers, the glass manufacturers, for about £80,000.

Honey sales up as jam declines

By Our Commercial Editor

Britons are eating more honey but spreading less marmalade and jam on their toast according to a survey from Market Assessment Publications.

The report on the spreads market which ranges from preserves and meat or fish pastes to sandwich spreads, such as soft chocolate and peanut butter shows sales have remained practically static in the past five years and were worth £237 million in 1983.

Honey sales have been growing at about 5 per cent a year with £40 million worth now being eaten. The survey says honey is seen as a healthy food and has benefited while jam, marmalade and similar products have suffered.

Marmalade sales have dropped between 12 per cent and 15 per cent since 1979 and at £42 million a year are only marginally more than the honey sector.

The jam market, on which just under £70 million a year, is also in decline. This is because of a reaction to rich, sweet foods and drink, exacerbated by fears about dental health and the expansion of alternative snack and dessert products.

The move away from heavy, dark, sweets food has particularly hit demand for syrup and treacle with sales down about a quarter since 1978 and an expected further decline of 3 per cent a year. This sector, which includes chocolate spreads and peanut butter, is worth about £20 million a year.

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Doctors in rumpus over kidney man

By Colin Hughes

Doctors at the Churchill hospital, Oxford, were yesterday accused of "playing God" with the life of a kidney patient, after they refused to continue giving him kidney dialysis treatment.

The case of Mr Derek Sage, aged 44, a former psychiatric patient, has roused the anger of the British Kidney Patients Association, which claimed yesterday that many doctors throughout the country are making moral judgements on which lives are worth saving through kidney dialysis.

Dr Des Oliver, head of the Churchill's kidney unit, decided on New Year's Eve to cut off Mr Sage's twice-weekly dialysis because his quality of life was so low that the hospital was "officially keeping him alive".

Mr Sage, who has lived at Simon House, run by the Oxford Cyrenians, for eight years, suffered kidney failure two years ago when being successfully operated on for a brain tumour.

Mr Mike Hall, warden of Simon House, said yesterday that the doctors had decided that Mr Sage was aggressive, uncommunicative, and dirty, and that his place on the kidney treatment list would be better used by someone else.

"They agreed, under protest, to give him some dialysis last Wednesday, but by Saturday

night it was apparent that he would live at most another week if he was not properly treated."

The British Kidney Patients Society, of which Mr Sage is a member, immediately agreed to pay £1,200 a week to keep Mr Sage at the St John's and St Elizabeth nursing home in north London, where he was taken for dialysis yesterday.

Mr Hall said: "These doctors, having agreed two years ago to treat Derek, have no moral right to decide that he should die, which is what would have happened if he had not been moved."

"It is incredible that they should decide he is not worth keeping alive. He leads a very good life, is a loved member of the household, and is only difficult when he goes to the hospital because it frightens him."

Dr Alex Gatherer, the district medical officer, said he had asked for another opinion on the decision from two more senior kidney doctors at the Churchill, Prof Peter Morris, and Dr John Ledingham, both of whom agreed with Dr Oliver.

Mr Stuart Twidell, director of the Hospital of St John and St Elizabeth, said that Mr Sage had undergone dialysis and a minor operation yesterday, and was "in no danger of losing his life".

Poll favours retirement for Queen

By Alan Hamilton

Many people believe the Queen should abdicate at some time rather than retain the crown for life, according to an opinion poll published today in *Woman* magazine.

When the magazine conducted a similar poll in 1978, two-thirds of those questioned were against abdication. Now, 52 per cent believe she should retire at some time. Three per cent thought she should abdicate immediately, 16 per cent when she reaches 60 next year, and 33 per cent some day, but not yet.

Buckingham Palace invariably dismisses such suggestions out of hand. A Palace spokesman said yesterday: "There is absolutely no question of the Queen abdicating; it is quite contrary to the tradition of the monarchy."

The magazine suggests that the change in the public's attitudes may be a result of the appearance on the royal stage of the Princess of Wales.

However *Woman* readers still approve overwhelmingly of the monarchy as an institution, with 85 per cent of those questioned in favour of it, compared with 86 per cent in the 1978 survey. The Queen also remains the most popular member of the Royal Family, with 40 per cent voting for her.

Vauxhall gains as car sales surge

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

New car sales in the United Kingdom reached the near-record level of 1,749,650 last year, with Vauxhall-Opel providing the big success story. Vauxhall was the only British manufacturer to increase output and market share.

Figures released yesterday by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders show that six out of 10 new cars sold in December were imported. Imports penetration for the year was 56.92 per cent, compared with 57.52 per cent in 1983.

The big three manufacturers accounted for more than 60 per cent of 1984 sales, led by Ford (27.83 per cent) with BL (17.84 per cent) and Vauxhall-Opel (16.17 per cent) battling for second place.

Last year's sales, boosted by razor-sharp competition among dealers, were 2.35 per cent lower than 1983's record of 1.7 million and almost 2 per cent higher than the previous record year of 1979. Manufacturers are trying to predict the size of the 1985 market, with some confident of another year of buoyant business to match 1984.

Vauxhall-Opel, owned by General Motors of the United States, increased 1984 sales by 7.9 per cent over 1983, led by the Cavalier, Astra and Nova models. Mr John Fleming, chairman and managing director, setting his sights firmly on the number two slot ahead of BL, said yesterday he was aiming for 1985 sales of 315,000 for an 18 per cent market share and coupled his forecast with a plea for industrial peace.

Ford, whose market share slipped by just over 1 per cent last year, imported 42.7 per cent of its cars from Europe, including 136,000 from West Germany and 40,000 from Spain. General Motors imported more than 58 per cent of the Vauxhalls and Opels sold in Britain with 72,000 coming from West Germany and 55,000 from Spain.

Thirty-six per cent of sales were from the EEC countries, against 39 per cent for 1983.

The leading "traditional" importer was Nissan of Japan, with 6.08 per cent; the Japanese market share was 11.11 per cent.

European importers were led by VW/Audi (5.52 per cent), followed by Renault (3.42 per cent), Volvo (3.38 per cent) and Fiat (2.73 per cent). Peugeot/Talbot captured 4 per cent of the market, but only 35 per cent of the 75,519 sales came from the British Isles.

Top 20 sellers 1984:

1. Ford Escort	167,246	2. Vauxhall Cavalier	136,196	3. Ford Fiesta	122,851
4. Vauxhall Astra	112,071	5. Austin/MG Metro	112,071	6. Vauxhall Nova	54,442
7. Vauxhall Astra	54,442	8. Ford Orion	54,442	9. Vauxhall Cavalier	54,442
10. Vauxhall Astra	54,442	11. Vauxhall Astra	54,442	12. Vauxhall Astra	54,442
13. Vauxhall Astra	54,442	14. Vauxhall Astra	54,442	15. Vauxhall Astra	54,442
16. Vauxhall Astra	54,442	17. Vauxhall Astra	54,442	18. Vauxhall Astra	54,442
19. Vauxhall Astra	54,442	20. Vauxhall Astra	54,442		

Angela Rippon to leave US job

The former BBC newswoman, Angela Rippon confirmed yesterday that she was leaving her \$100,000 (£33,000) a-year job with the Boston television station, WNEV-TV, to return to Britain.

Miss Rippon, aged 40, who joined the station a year ago, will return to Britain at the end of this month, but the BBC denied reports that she is about to rejoin the corporation. A spokeswoman for Miss Rippon's management, IMG, said that she had no job offers in Britain at the moment.

Maxwell award

Mr Robert Maxwell, publisher of Mirror Group Newspapers, yesterday received the "Golden Pen" award from The Cartoonists Club of Great Britain for being the greatest source of inspiration in the past year.

Budget hope for falling cigar sales

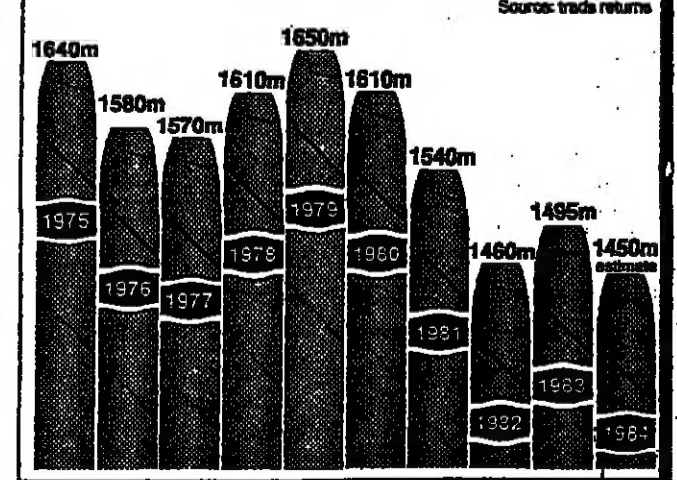
By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Cigar sales, which recovered in 1983 after three years of decline, have taken another tumble in the past year. Manufacturers are also forecasting a further decline in 1985, unless the Chancellor, in the next Budget, proves kinder than in the past few years.

The Christmas sales are still being counted. These usually represent one third of all cigars sold. But it looks as if 1984 cigars will be down by about 3 per cent, not much different from the likely outcome of cigarette sales, which are expected to be reduced in 1984 by between 3 per cent and 4 per cent.

Yet cigars had grown in popularity during 1983, when sales were up 2.4 per cent on the year before. The cigar market is less volatile than the cigarette sector, the biggest influence being the amount of disposable income available for consumers.

But a forecast of a possible 1985 sales decline of about a further 2 per cent comes from Gallaher, Britain's second largest tobacco manufacturer, and part of American Brands. Mr Guy Moreland-Green, Gallaher's general manager for cigars, said: "It depends how far the Chancellor treats the cigar industry more fairly in the next



The biggest sales battle is in the large white seal, with brands such as Gallaher, Hamlet and Manikin and Imperial's Panama, Embassy Slims, Grandee and John Player Mild.

The 1984 sales decline has had some impact on the large white seal, according to Mr Moreland-Green. About three quarters of all cigar sales are in this sector. But a 3 per cent increase is claimed for Hamlet, Britain's best-selling cigar, accounting for two out of every five cigars sold, including imports.

Reformulation of Manikin, now slimmer and longer has halted a continuous decline in the brand's share during the past 10 years. Sales in 1984 appear to be on a par with 1983.

But competition in the white seal, of which Imperial has about a 40 per cent share, is growing. A new Winterman brand, Manikin, is being test marketed by Imperial.

Gallaher is test marketing a Ritzmaster Royal Dutch Panatella, which is about the same size as Hamlet and Manikin, but has a "stronger presence" with cigars that have the attraction of more exotic labels. Imperial still dominates the miniatures market with brands such as Tom Thumb.

Chemical back in use after safety review

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Methyl isocyanate, the chemical which killed more than 2,000 people at Bhopal in India, was being used in Britain again yesterday for the first time since the disaster.

The Ciba-Geigy company resumed production of herbicides with methyl isocyanate (MIC) at its factory at Grimsby, Humberside, after a five-week review and the introduction of extra safety measures.

The company has rested the storage of its six tons of the

chemical and made other detailed changes after discussions with the Health and Safety Executive last week. The processing of MIC was suspended at the factory after the leakage of the chemical in Bhopal.

However, Grimsby Borough Council is seeking a ban on the storage of the substance at the factory, which is a mile from a housing estate and the village of Great Coates, and two miles from the centre of Grimsby.

Bogus car rustproofing complaint by firm

The managing director of a car rustproofing company called for urgent measures to protect motorists from unscrupulous firms selling "miracle" rust cures which were as ineffective as their "guarantees".

Mr Sigurd Wilberg, managing director of Dinol UK, which markets the Turf-Kote Dinol anti-rust system, said: "Anyone can set up as a rustproofing firm, can apply anything from old engine oil to beef dripping, offer a warranty and go out of business after a few

months taking a handy profit and leaving the purchaser with no cover, or proper protection."

He has written to Sir Gordon Borrie, director general of the Office of Fair Trading, calling for national standards for rustproofing materials similar to those in force in West Germany and Sweden. He says that thousands of motorists have been left with valueless guarantees after the collapse of several rustproofing companies.

The Sale of Goods Act offers the general protection of the law.

السنة 1405

Reagan's team breaks up and gives the right a big headache

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Reagan is suddenly from the day-to-day contact he bereft of the cadre of trusted now enjoys with the White California insiders who have House.

Mr Meese is likely to be given the White House. Even his confirmation hearing, but the Mr Michael Deaver, chief of staff, aged 46, decided he could no longer live on his \$72,000 (\$63,000) annual salary and announced that he would become a public relations specialist.

As a White House insider he should have no difficulty commanding a \$200,000 salary. He has long complained about financial stringency, lamenting that he could not even afford to send his children to private school. He was Mr Reagan's television image-maker and was always sent in advance to organize the President's state and official visits around the world, from Windsor Castle to the Great Wall.

Mr Deaver's move follows a similar decision by Mr William Clark, the Interior Secretary. The former judge has been one of the President's closest California friends from the beginning of Mr Reagan's political career. Nobody expected the resignation. He said he had completed his work in the Government and it was time to go back to his 888-acre barley and cattle ranch in California.

Mr Edwin Meese, the White House counsellor and another long time Reagan friend and adviser, has been nominated by Mr Reagan to become Attorney General. It is a Cabinet post, but it will keep Mr Meese away from the White House.

Conservatives are now looking even more intently to Mr Reagan to find an influential new job for Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, the hardline US representative to the United Nations. She is fed up with the job and the President is due to see her again soon to discuss her future. The departure of Mr Reagan's personal physician adds to the sudden atmosphere of change at the White House. Dr Daniel Ruge, a neurosurgeon, left quietly after nearly four years in the demanding job, which required extensive travel on Air Force One.

He has returned to his old job treating war veterans. He is a family friend of Mrs Reagan and was an assistant to her late father, a respected Chicago neurosurgeon.

He has been succeeded by another Californian, Dr Burton Smith, who is President Reagan's physician in Los Angeles.

Dr Ruge: Returning to treat war veterans.

'Greece wants to be left alone'

Papandreou rebuffs both America and Russia

New York (Reuters) - The Greek Prime Minister, Mr Andreas Papandreou, denying he was anti-American, said yesterday he wanted the Mediterranean cleared of superpower forces.

"I want a Mediterranean without the Soviet fleet, without the American fleet," Mr Papandreou said in a filmed interview with CBS. "I don't want American bases. I don't want Soviet bases. I want to be left alone."

The Greek leader has angered American officials by visiting Libya and freeing a suspected Arab guerrilla. Last summer, Greece signed a long-term, \$500 million co-operation deal with the Soviet Union to exploit the bauxite mines of Mount Parnassus.

Asked directly if he was anti-American, Mr Papandreou said: "No, quite to the contrary."

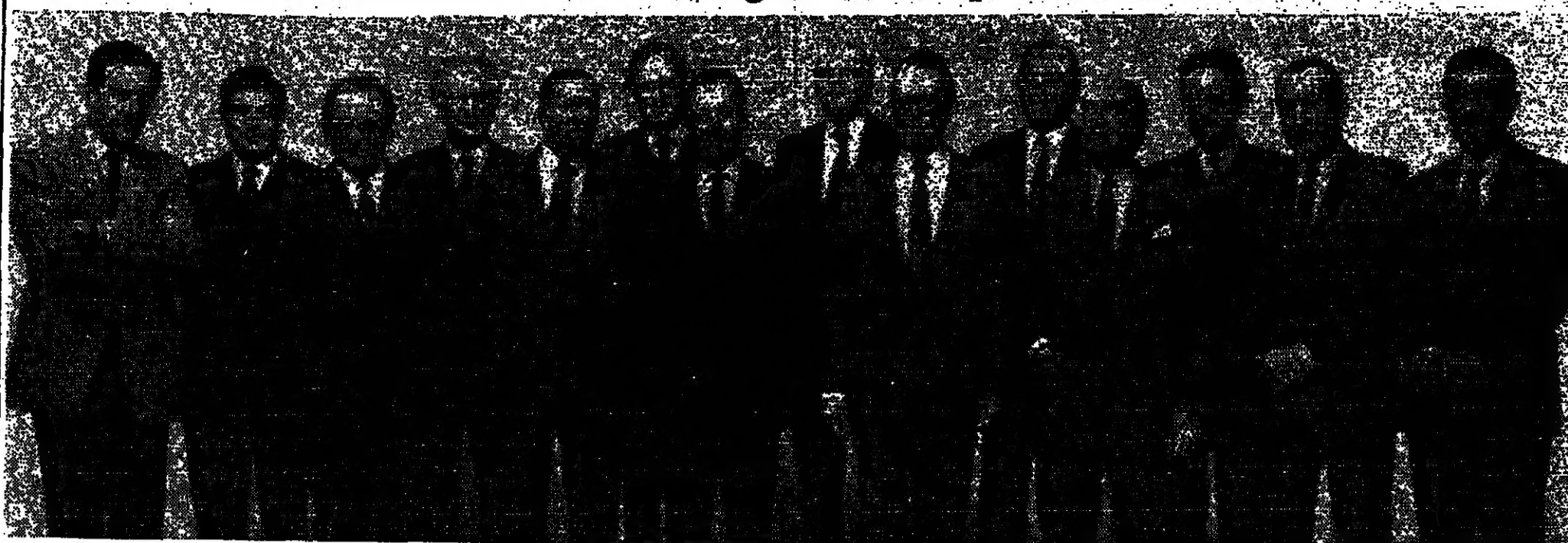
"I am in disagreement with the foreign policy of the Reagan Administration, that's clear. This I am prepared to accept. But that I am anti-American,

Father and son are executed

Peking (AP) - A peasant and his son have been executed for killing four people and wounding six members of a neighbouring family because of a feud over who owned a farm implement.

The victims of the knife-wielding rampage by Bai Zhiqiang and his son, Bai Jianjun, in a Shaanxi provincial village, included a one-year-old girl.

Commission with the weight of Europe on its shoulders



The new European Commission posing for an official photograph on its first day of business in Brussels yesterday. From left: Signor Carlo Ripa di Meana (Italy), Mr Peter Sutherland (the Irish Republic), Mr Nic Mosar (Luxembourg), Mr Willy de Clercq (Belgium), Signor Lorenzo Natali (Italy), Mr Frans Andriessen (Holland), M Jacques Delors (France) the Commission President, Herr Karl-Heinz Marjies (West Germany), Lord Cockfield (Britain), Mr Henning Christopherson (Denmark), M Claude Cheysson (France), Mr Grigoris Varfis (Greece), Herr Alois Pfeiffer (West Germany), Mr Stanley Clinton Davis (Britain).

Peking will not be bullied by superpowers

From Mary Lee Peking

A veteran Chinese diplomat said yesterday that the Soviet Union and the United States were wrong in their past approaches to relations with China.

Mr Zhaga Weizhu, who served as ambassador in several European countries and Latin America, is director of the Peking-based International Relations Institute.

In the Peking Review, he said: "At one time, the Soviets thought China could develop its economy and contend with the US only with Soviet support. Later the US thought China would be willing to make political concessions in order to import advanced technology for its modernization drive. Both countries were wrong. China cannot be bullied."

Mr Zhaga also said that even when Sino-Soviet and Sino-US relations were tense, "the Chinese were not afraid and felt no need to align themselves with either superpower". The cardinal principle in Peking's foreign policy was independence.

"China's door is now open to all kinds of countries," he said, "socialist or capitalist, developed or developing."

Observers regard Zhaga's article as a stronger restatement of Peking's non-aligned principle, which was beginning to appear compromised by its open wooing of America corporations for the higher technology the country so badly needs.

Baghdad claims ships hit near Kharg Island

Manama (AP) - Iraq said its aircraft attacked two "large naval targets" yesterday near the Iranian Kharg Island oil terminal. The raids were announced within hours of each other.

Warplanes scored accurate and effectively hits on the targets, Baghdad said. The term "large naval target" usually refers to a tanker.

There was confirmation of the attacks from Gulf shipping circles. The last Iraqi-announced raid on Gulf shipping on New Year's Eve was not confirmed.

Shipping circles which monitor the movement of traffic in the area, said no distress signals had been picked up. One shipping company executive pointed out that if a vessel had its communications system damaged, confirmation would be available only if another ship sighted it.

Vietnamese tanks smash way into key guerrilla base

From Pichai Nippittavit of AP, Ampil, Cambodia

An armoured Vietnamese assault by about 1,000 troops attacking from four directions smashed into this key resistance base yesterday, according to Thai military sources and witnesses.

At least 20 guerrillas were killed, part of the base destroyed and some of it occupied by the Vietnamese, who appeared to have the upper hand after a day of fighting, according to intelligence sources in the Thai army's eastern task force.

The Vietnamese laid down a massive artillery barrage before spearheading the assault with tanks - as many as 20 by some accounts - were in action yesterday than on any other single day in six years of fighting on the Thai-Cambodian border.

Major-General Salya Sriphen, Thai eastern force commander, told reporters that the defenders destroyed three of the Soviet-supplied T-54 tanks and two M-113 armoured personnel carriers.

I slipped into Ampil at 10 a.m. and watched panicky guerrillas shout "There are tanks coming" and they run

away shouting "Let's go, let's go" when armoured vehicles broke through Ampil's three outer defence rings and roared into the heart of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front headquarters.

Smoke billowed from parts of the camp as the armoured vehicles clanked in, one of them up the camp's main road about 600 yards from the command bunker.

The artillery fire stopped for about 10 minutes each hour, apparently to allow time to adjust and correct their range. Several other sources said some guerrillas pulled out of Ampil, at least briefly, to seek

safety near an anti-tank ditch on the Thai side of the border.

General Salya said the liberation front resisted the initial Vietnamese push.

More than 4,400 Thai civilians were evacuated from the area as stray shells landed across the border.

Ampil, 175 miles east of Bangkok, was the last major liberation front camp still intact until yesterday in Hanoi's latest dry season offensive.

Vietnamese forces have overrun front bases at Nong Chan, Obok, Rithien and Sok Sonh. Khmer Rouge camps at Nam Yun and Chong Bok were taken on Sunday after two days of resistance, according to Thai official speaking by telephone from Ubon Ratchathani province.

The strike at Ampil was widely expected since the Vietnamese were celebrating the sixth anniversary of capturing Phnom Penh. Hanoi invaded Cambodia in late 1978 and drove Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge out of Phnom Penh on Jan. 7, 1979.

(Pichai Nippittavit was one of three reporters to have entered the battlefield.)



South Korean opposition steps up poll pressure

From David Watts, Tokyo

Leaders of the South Korean human rights movement yesterday called on the Government to guarantee the safe return from exile of Mr Kim De Jung, a leading dissident, later this month.

As the group of 14 leading churchmen, intellectuals and lawyers met to demand more democratic government it was reported that another dissident had been given a warning that the Government might use force to stop his participation in the launching of a new political party.

Both developments are part of the gathering of political steam in South Korea as opponents of President Chun Doo Hwan prepare for elections in February. The elections are certain to be a severe test for all political elements in the country and for the US Government, which has made it clear it wants Mr Kim to be allowed back into Korea.

The Seoul Government has advised him not to return and said that if he does he will be arrested and jailed to serve the balance of a 22-year term for sedition. Senator Edward Kennedy has said he might accompany Mr Kim on his return.

The spokesman at yesterday's human rights group meeting said they were discussing a legal right to hold a national democratic system, not trying to wrest political power. They had

A booking to follow novel prize

Barcelona (AP) - Inspector José de Tomás García planned to give a press conference yesterday after receiving Spain's most important literary prize, the Premio Nadal.

Instead, he spent the morning at the local traffic violations office recovering his car which police colleagues had towed away on Sunday night as he slept after a celebration in the Ritz Hotel.

Inspector de Tomás, aged 41, a policeman in the south-eastern city of Valencia, won the £5,000 prize for his first novel, *On the other side of the door*.

He first discovered his car was missing when he awoke and stepped out on his balcony. Later, he found the parking ticket where his car should have been.

A Premio Nadal jury member described the inspector's novel as a work by an unknown author characterized by "a perfect blending of knowledge of the miller and narration, using the actual language of the drug underworld".

Señor de Tomás said he had written it to demonstrate the horrors of the world of drugs. The police chiefs in Barcelona are so delighted that they decided yesterday to promote him.

Duarte blames Arena for murder of aide

San Salvador (Reuters) - President José Napoleón Duarte of El Salvador has said the murder of his chief government corruption investigator was part of a plot by members of the ultra-right-wing Nationalist Republican Alliance (Arena).

Señor Duarte made the statement on Sunday night as he left a funeral home in the capital where the body of Señor Pedro Rene Yanes had been taken. The investigator was

killed on Saturday by a gunman who was then shot dead by Señor Yanes's bodyguards.

Señor Yanes was the head of the presidential commission on ethics, a corruption investigatory body, and the first member of Señor Duarte's Christian Democrat administration to be killed in what appeared to be a political assassination.

"It was a kind of plot. The causes are obviously of a political character," Señor Duarte said.

The Bishop of Managua, the Right Rev Thomas Savundaranayagam, yesterday deplored the killing of father Mary Bastian, parish priest of St Anne's Church at Vankalai near Mannar in north-western Sri Lanka, by security forces on Sunday. He described it as a "cruel, inhumane, and unthinkable act against a man of God".

The bishop also protested against "the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation and other means of government mass media for beaming out false news that arms and ammunition were found in the

Split hurts Social Democrats

Party searches its soul for credibility

In the second of two articles Michael Binyon in Bonn looks at the opposition Social Democratic Party.

The Social Democrats do not expect to be back in government at the next election in 1987. Indeed barring a major and unforeseen crisis within the centre-right coalition, so sure is the SPD of remaining in opposition that it will not finish the thorough-going overhaul of its policies and structure before 1988.

The toppling of the former Chancellor, Herr Helmut Schmidt, and the subsequent resounding defeat in the 1983 election, opened ideological splits and divisions which were widened by the painful debate on the deployment of Nato missiles in West Germany.

The party lurched to the left, giving free rein to those who had chafed under the yoke of government responsibility and the crushing authority of Herr Schmidt.

This attempt to recapture the strongholds on the left and re-align its ranks all those opposed to the missiles and the new conservatism in Bonn backed. Not only has the SPD failed to capitalize on Government failures over the past year, but in local elections and opinion polls it has lost even more heavily than the Christian Democrats.

The party's strategy for recovery is based on the reformulation of its principles and the renewal of its cadres. This lengthy self-analysis has already been set in motion. It has been compared with the historic adoption 25 years ago of what has become known as the Godesberg Programme, which signalled the party's acceptance of West Germany as a capitalist country, a member of Nato and a firm ally of the United States.

The Godesberg Programme ended the party's self-imposed confinement behind class and ideological barricades. Some influential SPD members on the left, especially Herr Erhard Eppler, now think this platform itself needs considerable revision, though Herr Willy Brandt, party chairman for over 20 years, thinks it would be dangerous to make too narrow the party's appeal to ideologically committed minority groups.

The challenge to the SPD, however, now comes from the right but from the left - the Greens.

The SPD has an ambivalent attitude to this radical, ecological, pacifist movement that is attracting more voters in every election and setting the pace in many important political fields.

Herr Brandt would like the SPD to build a broad-based consensus "this side of the Christian Democrats", forming a loose alliance with the Greens but keeping them at arms length.

However, the party's right wing, those identified with the Schmidt line, have reassured

themselves after their humiliating defeat over missile deployment, and believe concessions to the Greens would fatally undermine the SPD's appeal to large sections of the middle class, especially to industry and commerce.

And the Greens themselves are now split into two camps - "realists" ready for overtures to the SPD, and "fundamentalists" the radical heart of the party who want nothing to do with anything that smacks of establishment party politics.

The split was mainly responsible for the breakdown of the "toleration" by the Greens in Hesse of an SPD minority government. In the bitter recriminations that have followed, many in the SPD have been strengthened in believing the Greens will not play by the rules and it is time to take off the kid gloves.

The Greens, evidently surprised by, and unready for, their electoral success, have not yet reached the frontiers of their appeal that would force them to start thinking more seriously about how to translate into effect their slogans and protests.

The Social Democrats also have a problem of leadership. Unlike the CDU, the position of party chairman and candidate for Chancellor has been separate since 1966. Herr Brandt still retains broad appeal amongst the young, and has been unusually vigorous recently, he is no longer an alternative to Herr Kohl.

Herr Hans-Jochen Vogel, the parliamentary leader defeated by Herr Kohl in 1983, is a fine and sharp speaker in the Bundestag, but he lacks charisma and has been unable to rally the dispirited party. Herr Johannes Rau, Minister of North Rhine-Westphalia, is much more likely to be the candidate in 1987.

The SPD insisted at its last party congress that it would have to start looking like a credible alternative government if it was to be a proper opposition. At the moment it is neither - a verdict today's voters seem to share.

Concluded

Agent Orange lawyers get \$9.2m

New York (AP) - A federal judge yesterday awarded \$9.2 million (£7.8 million) in fees and expenses to lawyers for the thousands of Vietnam veterans and their families who sued the makers of the wartime herbicide Agent Orange.

District Judge Jack Weinstein also gave his final approval to the \$180 million settlement that was reached on May 7.

Although no procedure has been worked out for distributing the bulk of the fund to veterans, Judge Weinstein said he was persuaded that "a viable plan" for distribution was possible.

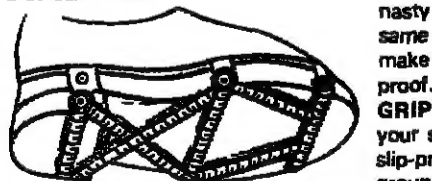
Urging the Government to hold an impartial inquiry at the highest level, Bishop Fernando said the version in the local press could prejudice the public and create unnecessary tension in the north and south.

The Government later ordered a police inquiry into the incident.

End of an era

Kuala Lumpur (AFP) - Malaysia severed a 100-year link with Britain at the inaugural sitting of its Supreme Court to hear appeals previously sent to the Privy Council in London.

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HOPES

Hungary: György Krassó

By Caroline Moorehead

A form of restrictive custody, tantamount to social isolation and house arrest, has been imposed on an outspoken Hungarian economist, György Krassó, imprisoned for nearly 30 years for his part in the 1956 revolution, but released under an amnesty in 1963.

He may not leave his flat in Budapest between 8pm and 6am. He is forbidden to visit hotels, cafes, restaurants, sports centres, cinemas, theatres or railway stations; he is not allowed a telephone and he must permit police to enter and search his flat at any time.

It is more than 10 years since a Hungarian intellectual has been arrested and tried on directly political charges for views expressed in public. In June last year, however, Mr Krassó, a persistent advocate of human rights and freedom of speech, was detained and questioned about an interview he had given to the *szabad* magazine *Hirmondó*, on the subject of the imprisonment and execution of the leaders of the revolution.

Although released with only a warning, he was picked up again by police in October, when his flat was raided and large quantities of *szabad*



Mr Krassó: Thirty years of outspoken opposition.

material confiscated. He was heavily fined.

Under the new restriction imposed in November, Mr Krassó has no right of appeal, since they were laid down under public order regulations by the district police authorities in total violation of the Hungarian Constitution and the Final Act of the Helsinki Agreement, to which Hungary is a signatory.

PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

It took a British company to develop Europe's most exciting new cars.

Peres promises all-out effort to rescue last stranded Falashas

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Amid intensive behind-the-scenes attempts to devise new ways of rescuing the black Jews of Ethiopia, Mr Shimon Peres, Israel's Prime Minister, promised yesterday to try to get out the estimated 12,300 still stranded.

Speaking about the suspended airlift for the first time since its premature disclosure by Israeli officials, Mr Peres said of the Falashas still at the mercy of the African drought: "I can say clearly that we shall not rest until all our brothers and sisters from Ethiopia come safely back home. It is their salvation, and nobody has to pay the price apart from our own people."

Addressing an audience at Hebrew University, Mr Peres added that the Ethiopian Jews had taken great personal risks in their efforts to come to Israel, and, in return, Israel would do everything possible for them.

"We have put aside all considerations, economic, political and religious, to open our hearts, minds and homes to really help them, this great, forlorn community."

Today Mr Peres is due to make an official statement to the Israeli parliament on operation Moses, which ended at the weekend.

After a Cabinet debate on Sunday on the airlift by the Belgian charter airline, Trans European Airways, *The Times* was informed that a report was being submitted to the chief censor in Tel Aviv about its front-page reports yesterday on Israeli plans.

In a telephone call, Colonel Abi Gur-Ari, head of the Jerusalem military censor's office, told me that special instructions have been issued for all reports relating to the rescue to be submitted for censorship. A decision had not been taken about what sanctions, if any, would follow yesterday's report.

According to the Jewish Agency, whose officials have been closely involved in planning the dramatic rescue operation, some 8,000 to 10,000 Falashas are still in Ethiopia.

Yesterday, for the first time, Israel's President, Mr Chaim Herzog, intervened in the fierce public debate that resulted from the leaking of details about the airlift by two officials from the Jewish Agency, and a subsequent press conference staged on the orders of Prime Minister's office.

"I must regretfully point out that we have a dubious talent for converting any admirable achievement into a matter of

controversy," Mr Herzog said. "It is my plea that we do not make this splendid rescue of Ethiopian Jewry into an ugly chapter of accusations and slanders levelled by political groups against each other."

The president added: "This national endeavour should not become a partisan political subject. Even if grave mistakes had inadvertently been made, we must now all make every effort to quiet the storm... I am convinced that the more we succeed in removing the subject from the headlines, the greater the chances to rescue the remnant."

Mr Herzog also launched an emotional attack on what he said was "the blatant hypocrisy" of various Arab states which have criticized the Israeli operation, and attempted to get Sudan to withdraw its vital co-operation.

"With the oil revenue of a single day they could have rescued all the Palestinian refugees from their distress, and did not, and now they cry out against a rescue operation of the greatest nobility."

The first Falasha baby born since the airlift was delivered in Jerusalem on Friday. Although underweight, the boy's condition was reported as being good.

Eyes of the world on Geneva

Cruise the key, say Nordic duo

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm

The Swedish Prime Minister Mr Olof Palme, met Finland's President Mauno Koivisto yesterday in Stockholm in the shadow of the Geneva talks and concentrated on the threat to the security of the Nordic area posed by cruise missiles.

Statements by both leaders after the meeting were low key, so as not to interfere with any possible progress in Geneva. But there was private agreement that a Nordic initiative to outlaw cruise should be taken if there is no progress in talks between the superpowers.

President Koivisto said: "Assurances have to be given that these missiles will not violate the air space of neutral nations."

Mr Palme said he hoped the cruise issue would play a central role in the Geneva negotiations. As the talks took place, Finnish troops abandoned the search for the remains of a Soviet missile, which went off course over Norway to explode over Finnish Lapland after being fired from a submarine in the Barents Sea.

President Koivisto said he was not aware of the incident, which occurred on December 28, when he made a New Year's speech to the nation, calling for a ban on cruise missiles. "I heard about it on the news," he said yesterday. The incident was made on January 2.

Other subjects discussed included the need for a nuclear weapons-free zone in the Nordic area, and relations between the Soviet Union and Sweden, which have become strained in recent years.

Shultz shies from camera barrage

From Richard Owen, Geneva

It was a day when the eyes of the world were on two men who for the most part kept themselves closeted away from the prying cameras, much to the disappointment of the American television networks who have descended on Geneva in force.

There are no fewer than 450 American journalists in the city by the lake, a figure which dismayed Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State. He was heard to mutter: "Oh my God, no," under his breath, a reference to his well-known fear that excessive media coverage could give rise to unrealistic high expectations. His talks with Mr Gromyko, after all, are supposed to set an agenda rather than achieve total disarmament overnight.

Mr Gromyko, who spoke in English on arrival, was clearly aware of the need for public relations. But the Soviet media team consists of just 15 people, including the Tass men normally resident in Geneva anyway.

Far from subjecting the talks to media overkill, Tass maintained an uncharacteristic silence, issuing only a two-line despatch after lunch. A read-faced Tass man explained this was due not to lack of guidance from the Kremlin but to a three-hour communications breakdown between Geneva and Moscow.

The breakdown evidently did not affect Mr Gromyko, who reportedly spoke to Moscow Foreign Minister, that Switzerland was failing to provide adequate security for Soviet citizens.

Wife's concern over Shcharansky

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Geneva - Extreme concern about the condition of the Soviet dissident, Mr Anatoly Shcharansky, 37, was voiced yesterday by his wife, Avital (Alan McGregor writes). She told a press conference that his mother was told on December 27 by a senior Communist official in Moscow that he had been removed from Christopol Prison to a hospital three months previously and that accounted for "the total break-off in contact."

Mr Shcharansky said "A concentrated effort must be made for his release. The situation may be critical."

For the morning session a 10-car cavalcade of senior American officials swept through the gates of the Soviet mission, a modern building set back from the road and painted white, despite its official name which is the Villa Rosa.

"Are you tired?" Mr Gromyko asked Mr Shultz as they sat on a sofa beneath a portrait of President Chernenko. No, said Mr Shultz.

Outside on the Avenue de la Baie, the world's reporters waited in freezing Moscow-style temperatures for any sign of progress, held back by a phalanx of armed security guards.

Local officials were puzzled by Mr Gromyko's complaint to Mr Pierre Aubert, the Swiss Foreign Minister, that Switzerland was failing to provide adequate security for Soviet citizens.



Lebanon's chief negotiator, Brigadier-General Muhammad al-Haj, in pensive mood yesterday.

Damascus holds key as Naqqoura teams wait

From Robert Fisk, Naqqoura

For different reasons but with the same apparent lethargy, Lebanese and Israeli military delegates continued their negotiations yesterday for an Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

Israeli officers claimed there could be no progress until Syria's Baath party - which they regard as Lebanon's real government - had finished its congress in Damascus. Lebanese officers insisted that the Israelis submit a detailed withdrawal plan before they could even discuss security along Israel's northern border.

But yesterday, there was a significant shift in Israel's line. Before Christmas, Israeli spokesmen were suggesting that Israel's patience was almost at an end: that if the Lebanese did not produce any worthwhile proposals by yesterday's session here, the Israeli Army might simply begin its withdrawal from Sidon, whatever the consequences to the Lebanese.

Yesterday, the Israeli spokesman - faced with absolutely no

concessions from the Lebanese - expressed his confidence that security arrangements could be found in southern Lebanon to the benefit of both sides.

The Israelis, however, also made it known that they were not pleased with Lebanon's unwillingness to compromise. In a closing statement, the Israeli delegation charged that Lebanon "evaded giving a clear answer" to earlier demands.

Both sides have been resigned to inconsequential days of talks under the somewhat impatient gaze of General William Callaghan and his United Nations officers at Naqqoura.

The Lebanese have angered the UN by suggesting that UN troops have been assisting, albeit by default, the Israeli occupation army. Israel, for its part, has continued to suggest that the UN should form a buffer zone between Israeli and Syrian forces in the lower Bekaa valley, an idea which the UN believes will merely re-emphasize the partition of Lebanon.

Judge's testimony buoys Sharon

Tel Aviv (Reuters) - The Israeli Minister, Mr Ariel Sharon, architect of Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon, left yesterday for New York to continue his libel suit against *Time* magazine.

The Justice Ministry said the former Supreme Court president, Mr Yitzhak Kahane, who headed Israel's inquiry into the 1982 Beirut massacre of Palestinian refugees, had testified that a secret appendix of his report did not indicate that Mr Sharon discussed revenge with Phalangist militiamen.

Mr Sharon, Defence Minister at the time, is suing the magazine for \$50 million (£42 million) for alleging that the appendix said he had discussed avenging the death of Bashir Gemayel, the Phalangist leader and president-elect, with Gemayel's family.

Before leaving, a jubilant Mr Sharon told reporters that the new testimony "proves beyond any doubt *Time* magazine lied."

A Justice Ministry spokesman said Mr Kahane replied "no" to the following three questions submitted by the court:

Do the documents show or hint that Mr Sharon held a discussion with the Gemayel family or a member of the Phalangists in which he discussed the need of avenging the murder?

Do they indicate that Mr Sharon held a discussion with a Phalangist in which either mentioned the need for revenge?

Do they indicate that Mr Sharon knew in advance the Phalangists would massacre civilians if they entered the Beirut camps unaccompanied by Israeli forces?

Barbie 'will expose resistance heroes'

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Spectacular "revelations" about reputed heroes of the French resistance have been promised during the trial of Klaus Barbie, the so-called "Butcher of Lyons", which is now expected towards the end of this year.

M. Christian Riss, the examining magistrate, has completed his preliminary investigations after nearly two years of work. He has submitted his report to the public prosecutor who will draw up the documents and set a date for the trial.

Barbie, who has been held in prison in Lyons since his expulsion from Bolivia in February 1983, has been charged with "crimes against humanity" in connection with the death of more than 4,000 French resistance fighters and Jews, and the deportation of 7,500 others, when serving as an SS officer in Lyons between 1942 and 1944. Maitre Jacques verges, Barbie's lawyer, announced that his client would make "revelations" at his trial concerning "certain people" who had profited or received honours because of their reputed role in the resistance.

The disclosures "will not only make a lot of noise, but will also hurt", he promised.

Maitre Verges caused an uproar just over a year ago when he claimed that Jean Moulin, the French resistance leader, was not beaten to death in prison by Barbie in June 1944, as is generally supposed.

Politicians may be implicated but committed suicide in despair after being betrayed by other members of the resistance.

He has not named any names, but there have been rumours that figures, alive and dead, across the French political spectrum may be implicated, with little to indicate whether the allegations are true.

The timing of the disclosures could be particularly embarrassing if judicial sources are right in suggesting that the trial will begin at the end of this year, before the critical parliamentary elections in March next year.

The American syndicated newspaper columnist, Jack Anderson, quoting unidentified "intelligence sources", recently suggested that Barbie's trial was being deliberately delayed by those in important places, who feared being denounced. Mr Anderson claimed that the French authorities were hoping that Barbie, who is 71 and in poor health, would die before being brought before the courts.

Of the original eight charges of crimes against humanity brought against Barbie, only

Charges dropped for lack of evidence

three have been retained by M Riss. The others had to be dropped for technical reasons or for lack of supporting evidence.

Barbie is now charged with the deportation to German concentration camps of 650 people, including 330 Jews, from Lyons in August 1944; the deportation in February 1943 of 86 members of the Lyons committee of the Union Generale des Israelites de France, including the father of M Robert Badinter, the French Minister of Justice; and the deportation of 55 Jews, including 52 children, from a children's home in Izieux, near Lyons, in April 1943.

Barbie cannot be prosecuted for any "war crime" because the deadline for such prosecutions has long since expired. Nor may he be prosecuted for any crimes of which he was found guilty in his absence by French tribunals in the early 1950s. And for which he was twice condemned to death.

There is no time limit on crimes against humanity, but they apply only to groups of civilians and not to individuals. Barbie will not therefore be tried for the death of Jean Moulin.

Frank words leave Kennedy and Pik Botha worlds apart

From Ray Kennedy, Onderstepoort

The best laid plans of highly organized political bodies in Washington DC tend to go awry when they are exposed to the timelessness of Africa. So it was yesterday the second day of Senator Edward Kennedy's South African safari.

This spot in the middle of the bushveld is where the senator and his party are supposed to be. Two thousand blacks now living on a lush farm settlement 80 miles away are threatened with forced removal to here under the Government's resettlement policy designed to eliminate so-called blackspots from designated white areas.

Senator Kennedy began his day with a 90-minute meeting with R F "Pik" Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, in Pretoria.

After what was apparently a frank exchange of views, Mr Botha said: "The purpose of such discussions is not to seek common ground. I think it would be naive to ever expect Senator Kennedy and me to reach common ground."

The senator then left the Carlton Hotel in Johannesburg by helicopter for the black

settlement at Mathepoed, while most of the media entourage tried to keep up in cars and buses.

The senator's helicopter was more than one hour behind because the talks with Mr Botha went on longer than planned.

Senator Kennedy and the villagers, led by Chief John Matope, settled under the shade of a bluegum tree for a traditional *Endaba*, a tribal pow-wow - except that in this case the Washington whizz kids had failed to research exactly how an *Endaba* proceeded.

The official schedule said: "11.20-12.30. Meeting with residents of Mathepoed blackspot area." It was 1.20pm when Chief Matope called the *Indaba* to order.

First there was a prayer. In rural Africa prayers are sung, not muttered, and the men and women of the village treated the senator to five minutes of instant harmony.

Then it was Chief Matope's turn. He outlined the history of the settlement, legally bought by his clan 74 years ago by word and gesture, pausing after every

few words to let one of his sons translate into basic English.

All that the people of Mathepoed wanted was to see their children grow up and enjoy "this very lovely piece of land," Senator Kennedy said. "Now every night they have to wonder if the next day trucks and vans will come to take them to a different land. The only reason for this is the colour of their skin."

The senator was then due, more than two hours behind schedule, to fly to Onderstepoort, to see what the people of Mathepoed can expect. But his helicopter would not start and he decided to give it a miss and returned to Johannesburg by car.

Close to the Sun City gambling centre, Onderstepoort is in an area on the edges of the "independent" homeland of Bophuthatswana and soon to be incorporated in it, which means the people of Mathepoed will lose their South African citizenship as soon as they are dumped here. It was one of the key issues in the talks between the Senator and Mr Botha.

New Caledonia's future

Stiff French opposition to freedom formula

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The French overseas territory of New Caledonia would be come a fully independent state under a "contract of association" with France on January 1, 1986, if proposals announced yesterday by M Edgar Pisani, France's special envoy, are accepted by the island's 145,000 population.

In a 35-minute radio address, broadcast simultaneously in New Caledonia and France, M Pisani, a former French Commissioner to the EEC, said that in his view the formula of independence coupled with association represented "the best and no doubt the only solution" for the troubled South Pacific islands, which have belonged to France since 1853.

His proposals were greeted by a predictable mixture of muted opposition by the indigenous Kanaks, who have been demanding full independence for the islands, and outraged opposition by the anti-separatist hardliners among the white "Caldoches" of French origin on the islands, and their supporters among the right-wing opposition parties on the French mainland.

M Jacques Roseau, spokesman for the National Committee of Support for French New Caledonia, said that M Pisani's plan was "the Evian accord [granting independence to Algeria] only worse".

M Pisani had "done everything" to favour a solution of a Socialist-Kanak independence in context of superior French interests and of the human dramas which it will entail for the Francophile Melanesians (Kanak) and the Caldoches.

There should be no illusions

about the efficacy of M Pisani's pretended guarantees for the white population. "M Roseau continued. Past experience showed that there was not one example of a state, dominated by an extremist party, becoming independent, which had not resulted in an exodus."

"France is today abandoning New Caledonia just as it sold Algeria down the river yesterday," he said. M Roseau, who returned on Sunday from a visit to New Caledonia, is also president of a French association representing Frenchmen repatriated from France's former North African colonies.

M Jean-Claude Gaudin, leader of the centrist UDF group in the French parliament, expressed astonishment that M Pisani had not said anything about what would happen if the New Caledonians chose to remain French. "We cannot accept this unilateral vision of the future of what for us is still an integral part of France," he said.

Under M Pisani's proposals, a referendum asking the New Caledonians whether they wanted independence under a contract of association with France, or a maintenance of the status quo, would be put to the vote in July this year.

All those resident in New Caledonia for more than three years would have the right to vote. If the vote was in favour of independence (which is by no means a foregone conclusion), a New Caledonian parliament would be elected next October, which would be responsible for drawing up the Treaty of Association with France, prior to full independence.

Howe calls for reality on Namibia

From Jan Raath, Harare

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday reiterated Britain's view that there should be no formal link between independence for Namibia and the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola, but that negotiations could not ignore the Cuban issue.

He is in Zimbabwe on the first leg of an African tour. In a speech at a lunch hosted by Dr Winance Mangwende, his Zimbabwean counterpart, Sir Geoffrey advocated the "good sense" of patient and peaceful negotiation to resolve the apparently intractable problems.

He said Britain rejected Pretoria's position, which is backed by the US, that the independence of Namibia should be contingent on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

But, almost in the same breath, he urged Zimbabwe, which has become the leading force in the frontline states, to take account of the "political reality" that, unless there was some form of arrangement over the Cubans which South Africa would accept, there would be no agreement on the implementation of the United Nations plan for Namibian independence.

The frontline states, including Angola, oppose the Cuban "linkage" policy.

Sir Geoffrey said this would improve prospects for a settlement, and hoped the present talks, led by Dr Chester Crocker, the US Assistant Secretary of state for African affairs, would succeed in dealing with the linkage obstacle.

No time for showmanship or empty promises in Europe says Delors

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The EEC has got to progress or decline. That was the "basic formula" offered by M Jacques Delors yesterday when he presided at the first meeting of the new European Commission in Brussels.

He told the press immediately afterwards that he had made three resolutions. The first was not to make a big spectacle out of his presidency. The second was to make no ill-considered promises. The third was not to give way to "Euroscepticism".

He said his 27 years of association with the Community had taught him that it was a dry and difficult subject. Even if it was tempting to try to adopt a salesman's technique, he knew there were too many pitfalls. The Community institutions had been adrift for some

years, and the Commission had its back against the wall. It was no time for showmanship.

As far as promises were concerned, he was only too aware that the Council of Ministers alone had the decision-making right. The Commission could make clever proposals and push things along. It could even cause trouble "in the right way at the right time". But it should not make promises it could not keep.

In refusing to give way to pessimism he argued that it was better to seek reasons for hope. There was a danger of a "gilded decline" with a high standard of living, a politicians' masked recession and growing unemployment.

"We have to find reasons for hope and action," he said. "The

basic line of my approach will be to see what we can put the people of Europe to do. I may be wrong. Perhaps we should spend time drawing attention to the long decline before us. But I am engaged to say there are reasons for hope."

The P. President said he had toured all 10 EEC capitals and had been pleasantly surprised to find how much more aware Governments were of the problems to be faced than they were when he had made a similar tour five years before.

The problems existed regardless of the Community's existence. Europe was not a panacea, but it was easier to tackle problems collectively than individually. There were multiplying effects over and above what any one country could do on its own.

Two British stars of rowing die in crash

Two prominent Britons in the world of rowing were killed in a road accident yesterday near Auxerre in Burgundy, on the Lyons-Paris motorway.

They were Graeme Hall, coach of the Cambridge crew for several years and of the British Olympic eight in Los Angeles last summer, and Sally Bloomfield, who rowed for Britain in the women's double sculls in the Olympic regatta. They were returning from a skiing holiday.

Mr Hall's son and daughter were injured in the crash but not seriously.

Jim Ralston, page 20

Ex-MP held for robbery

Ludwigshafen (AP) - A former Free Democrat MP was arrested for allegedly robbing a jewellery store and striking two witnesses with a pistol.

Police said that Hans-Otto Scholl, aged 51, former chairman and Whip of his party in the state of Rhineland-Palatinate, remained in investigative custody.

Governor back

Frankfort, Kentucky (AP) - Governor Martha Layne Collins, aged 48, returned to work for the first time since undergoing emergency abdominal surgery in London in November to remove a piece of glass, she swallowed. The glass punctured an intestine.

Belgian choice

Brussels (Reuters) - Mr Frans Groenings, aged 62, was named as Belgium's new Finance Minister and one of the country's three deputy prime ministers replacing his fellow Flemish Liberal, Mr Willy De Clerck, who becomes a European Commissioner.

Lange pledge

Wellington (Reuters) - The New Zealand Prime Minister, Mr David Lange, said his government would do all in its power to make the South Pacific a nuclear weapons free zone. "If there is morality in question, the moral is in the action," he said.

Strip poster

Peking (AP) - Chinese archaeologists have unearthed 23,000 bamboo strips inscribed with writings from the Han dynasty (206 BC-AD 220), including the earliest known "wanted" posters for a fugitive - a maid who ran away from a mansion.

Border killings

Nairobi (AFP) - Two Tanzanian militiamen were killed when Kenyan police opened fire on them by mistake after a cattle rustling incident in the Mara region on the Kenya-Tanzania border, Dar es Salaam radio reported.

Order in class

Delhi (Reuters) - India's new education minister, Mr K. C. Pant, has ordered strict classroom discipline - not for students but for teachers. He blamed lack of punctuality, grooming and having visitors in offices.

Visits stopped

Vigo (AP) - Passengers on the British cruise ship *Sea Prince* were unable to disembark during a stop in this north-western Spanish port because of a demonstration by shipyard workers angry over job losses.

Desert run

Brisbane, (Reuters) - Ron Grant, aged 41, is halfway across Australia's 250-mile wide Simpson Desert in an attempt to be the first to run across it in summer. He ran round Australia in 1983.

Manila murder

Manila (AP) - Mr Jan David Rakoff, an American holiday firm executive, was found dead in his burning apartment here apparently clubbed to death with a piece of metal-rod from a gas stove.

Late breakfast

Paris (Reuters) - France's first weekday breakfast television failed to go on the air because of a strike by technicians for pay rises and extra staff. The network said it had been "postponed".

Ferry sinks

Manila (AP) - One passenger died and 20 are missing after high waves sank a ferry with 512 passengers on board near Butuan City harbour in the southern Philippines.

Pipeline blast

Giessen, West Germany (AFP) - A Nato pipeline escaped damage from a bomb attack near here overnight, but an adjacent Nato petrol depot was slightly damaged.

Smokers pay

Peking (Reuters) - Smokers brought China almost \$4 billion in taxes last year, its second largest source of revenue after the oil industry, the official *People's Daily* said.

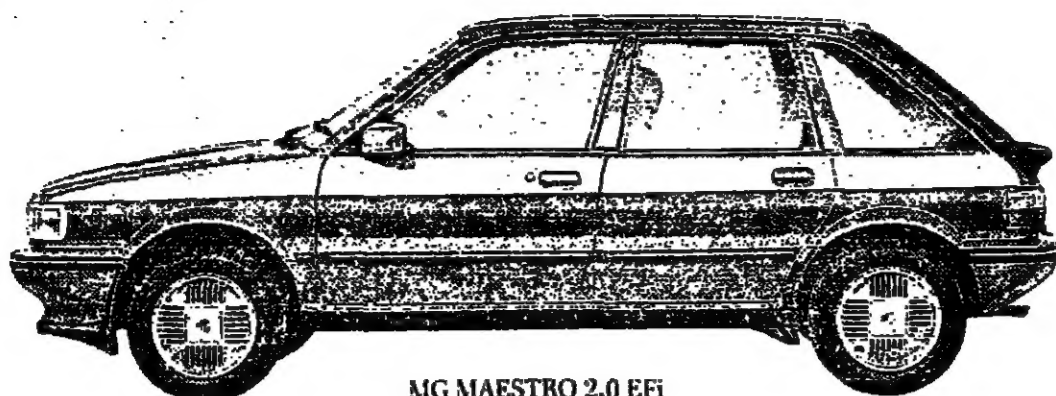
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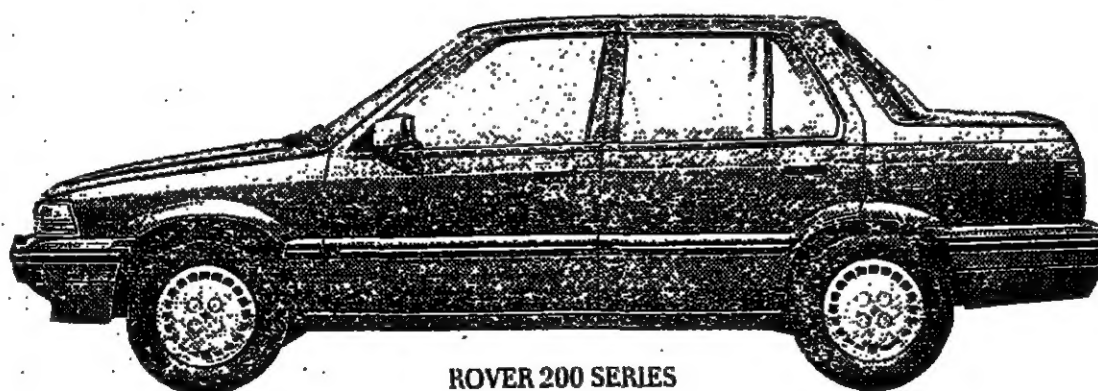
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Trouble is feared when Falkland Islanders and "outsiders" meet for the first time at the traditional sports next month. In part two of a series RODNEY TYLER reports from the islands on how such fundamental changes are being welcomed and resented

Facing the chill wind of change

This week two British country policemen, Constables Mark Bullock of Hempstead, Gloucestershire, and Steve Barrett, of Sessingland, Suffolk, will set out from Port Stanley to Fitzroy settlement some 20 miles away to conduct a reconnaissance mission in the history of the Falkland Islands.

One reason they volunteered for the six-month tour of duty in the South Atlantic was to get away from the violence of the Falklands. It is ironic that they should be visiting the tiny settlement of 30 or so people in order to work out how to prevent what could be the islands' first serious bout of civil disturbance.

The East Falkland Camp sports is a traditionally peaceful two-day gathering of 200 or 300 islanders who race their horses, hold gymkhanas, gossip, get drunk and allow their children a chance to play together. But what makes this year's event different is the presence and, for the first time, accessibility, of anything up to 6,000 outsiders.

The two policemen will work out how to defuse this potentially explosive mix: there are 4,000 cooped-up construction workers from the new airport 10 miles away, and 4,000 soldiers equally deprived of such civilising influences as wives and families who wish to spend next month what is essentially a domestic occasion for the islanders marking the end of the South Atlantic summer.

On the airport site itself the men are "policed", according to the Property Services Agency director Maurice Channing, by the simple threat that anyone who throws a punch is sent home - losing most, if not all, of the £1,000 or more a month he has earned. "Security guards are told not to stop fights," he says. "All they have to do is take names." The fear on this occasion, however, is that away from the site the men might be tempted to cut loose.

The police plan is to do it with a mixture of rapidly acquired local knowledge and good humoured common sense. But the need for a reconnaissance mission such as this is happening. The conflict which ended on June 15, 1982, did not so much close a period of violent upheaval as begin a time of profound change in the Falklands.

To some islanders most aspects of that change are unwelcome; to most they are seen as inevitable. A few welcome them wholeheartedly.

Next month's East Falkland Camp Sports at Fitzroy are a perfect example of the many, many ways in which island life will never be the same again - if only for the fact that these sports will need policing because the settlement will by then lie on a newly-completed road linking the islands, nearly completed new airport with the capital Port Stanley.

The fear is that the clash of cultures at this meeting, fuelled by the festive spirit, could well lead to a clash of fists.

"Nobody bothers about a happy drunk," says Chief Superintendent Bill Richardson, who has ordered the reconnaissance after one minor incident last year. "It's the

They believe their only friends are Sir Rex Hunt and Mrs Thatcher

stodgy ones that worry you - especially if there are a lot of them and they are all strangers. People feel anxious if the place suddenly fills up with a lot of strangers. Our presence will help put their minds at rest.

"Now that they can get there, soldiers are bound to want to go from Stanley and men from the airport site. It could get out of control, that's why the boys will be going. It's a sign of the times."

Until now there have been no

roads outside Stanley, and no airport other than the unsatisfactory strip on the edge of the town. The islands' whole economy has been locked in an early 20th-century time warp. The half of the population who lived outside Stanley existed on mail order and what they made or did for themselves - as curious to the outsider in their own way as sepias shots of early settlers in the Wild West. Those who lived in the big city (population 800) did indeed have shops and pubs, even an hotel, but no cobbler, dry cleaners, bakers, hairdressers, photography shops or many of the other high street regulars.

What is more, those luxuries were not a day away, or even a week away, as they would be in the Highlands or Islands of Scotland, with which the Falklands are most often compared. They were a month or more distant - and in another hemisphere.

The battle for the Falklands was the physical repositioning of the islands. But two more battles have started in the islands since 1982 - each a direct consequence of the political decision to go to war and each just as stirring as that original tussle.

The second battle - the military struggle to establish a secure garrison on the islands - is nearly over. But the third, the economic struggle to save the islands' economy from total collapse, is only just beginning.

These second and third battles have to be won too. It

would have been as little use retaking the islands if they were immediately left open again to Argentinian invasion, as it would be if there was nothing there worth the re-taking in five years' time anyway. And that was precisely the situation found by Lord Shackleton in the aftermath of victory.

His report talked of the "unacceptability" of an island with a population down to 1,000 (which was shrinking steadily) being defended by 3,000 or more soldiers and "depending economically on its income from postage stamps."

But the cost of saving,

securing and making sound the islands has already run to more than £1 million per head of the 1,800 population, and it is not just those on the left who have their doubts: many who wholeheartedly supported the original task force now have them too. Did we parry in haste, only to repent at leisure?

The view of the Falklands as a lump of useless rock, not worth fighting for, and the islanders as equally lumpen and worthless in the long term historical context, is one being carefully shepherded as a by-product of the Dailly anti-Belgrano faction.

It is helped by the natural distortion of any place seen from 8,000 miles away. Few people realize, for example, that the Falklands are the size of Wales, or that parts of them are outstandingly beautiful, or that the people of Stanley are as united in their hatred of Argentina and determination to remain as British as the Isle of Wight. From 8,000 miles away, and to ears already gently bent by the Foreign Office's persistent desire to "tidy up" relations with Argentina, such strong convictions take on a crankiness, which in turn further undermines our reason for fighting the first - let alone the second or third - battles of the Falklands.

Their isolation is purely physical. For example Hector "Sue" Binney and his wife live 10 miles away from the Fox Bay settlements - he rarely visits even those tiny enclaves more than once a year. His wife has not been there in 10 years. Yet they know everything that is happening on the islands because they talk, more than would two neighbours over a garden fence in suburban London, with everyone within earshot of their two-metre band radios.

And they keep up to date with the world outside through the radio and a constant supply of videos delivered by anyone. Army or otherwise, who passes their way.

The people have a political awareness, albeit sharpened by events of 1982, which you would be unlikely to find in any other random group of 1,800 largely rural folk: an awareness sufficient, for example, for their three spokesmen - John Cheek, a communications engineer,

and farmers Tony and Tina Blakely - to distinguish themselves at the United Nations.

To outsiders they may appear as intransigent oddities. For, with all their differing shades of opinion, they are absolutely united in their hatred of Argentina and determination to remain as British as the Isle of Wight. From 8,000 miles away, and to ears already gently bent by the Foreign Office's persistent desire to "tidy up" relations with Argentina, such strong convictions take on a crankiness, which in turn further undermines our reason for fighting the first - let alone the second or third - battles of the Falklands.

They seem untrusting because they believe they have only two friends: Sir Rex Hunt, the Civil Commissioner - who it is gently suggested by sources close to the FCO has "gone native" - and the Prime Minister, who will not last forever. And they seem ungrateful because they regard that first battle of the Falklands - and consequently the second and third - as no more than their right as Britons.

Most islanders, more so outside Stanley than in the town, accept that things will never be the same again but

find much to their irritation that too often their sadness at the passing of aspects of the way of life which existed before 1982 is misinterpreted as ingratitude for what has happened since.

Sir Rex puts their case succinctly: "The future for us is that we stay as we are - firm and steadfast - and wait for the Argentinians to grow up and realise that the islands never were theirs and they never wanted them in the first place."

We are all for normal relations between Britain and Argentina, but not for links between the Falkland Islands and Argentina. There is no need for them now and there was no need for them before 1971. Our links are with the UK and we want it to stay that way. When Argentinians talk of negotiations they mean the transfer of sovereignty. Any future British Government that decided that would have to impose it on the islanders.

So what has happened since 1982? The good news is that the second, military, battle for the Falklands is on the point of victory in a style as breathtaking in its own way as was the victory two and a half years ago. More cautious are the prospects in the battle for the islands' economy. It will be a longer and tougher struggle in its own way than either of its two predecessors.

TOMORROW
The triumphs and the economic battle that must be won



LEFT: Constables Mark Bullock and Steve Barrett on their beat. RIGHT: Soldiers, off duty, and maintaining good relations with young islanders



The sheep are virtually the only element of traditional Falklands life to remain unaffected by change.

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SINCE THEN THE COMPANY HAS PAID A DIVIDEND EVERY YEAR.

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Nature Notes

Out And About with "Crab Apple"

The lanes and tracks of England are rutted now with mud and manure (writes Crab Apple), which makes it treacherous underfoot. The branches stand stiffly against the sky and bitter wind brings the sheep huddling together for warmth; all in all, it's horrible weather and only a loony would be out and about, so I've stayed indoors ever since Christmas experimenting with my new cocktail-making kit.

Have you got one? Fun, aren't they? I went mad with Blue Curacao for a while, splashing it into everything. Gave the wife a heart attack one morning, serving her blue porridge. Anyway, here's a new cocktail I've invented which I call "Deadly Nightshade"...

("Crab Apple" has just been fired, writes the More-over Nature Editor. We are pleased to announce that Nature Notes will in future be written by "Sheepshank" of Country Life.)

Out And About with "Sheepshank"

Hello, everyone (writes Sheepshank). Well, there seems to have been some kind of mistake here because I was actually the knot-tying expert on Country Life, but nothing venture, nothing win. And when you're out on a country walk, there's nothing more important than fastening gates behind you. Most farmers now leave lengths of that orange-coloured twine all over the place, which is ideal for tying gates up with, and the knot I always recommended is a Bulgarian Flying Hitch.

Put a slip knot over the main gate post, then loop the string firmly round the

moreover... Miles Kingston

Nature writers, an endangered species

Out and about with Lord Moreover

As someone who already owns half of Norfolk (writes Lord Moreover), I can be said to be in pretty good touch with nature, especially intensively grown wheat. And my advice to you in 1985 is - deal direct with the Russians. No shilly-shallying about with Brussels and quotas and things with middlemen creaming everything off. Get on the hot line to the Kremlin, ask them how much they want, and when by. And insist they collect personally. As some-

one who owns half the ports in Norfolk, I think I know what I'm talking about. Above all, cut out anything that isn't making a profit. This is nature's own lesson. The dodo wasn't making a return on investment, so nature ruthlessly cut him out. That's why, on my land, you won't find any trees, hedges, country churches or telephone kiosks. It's my way of getting back to nature.

Another example. This Nature Notes column has been running for years without attracting one single ad. I had no idea. A quite horrifying waste of money. I am closing it down today. If anyone wants to buy it, they're welcome.

Correction

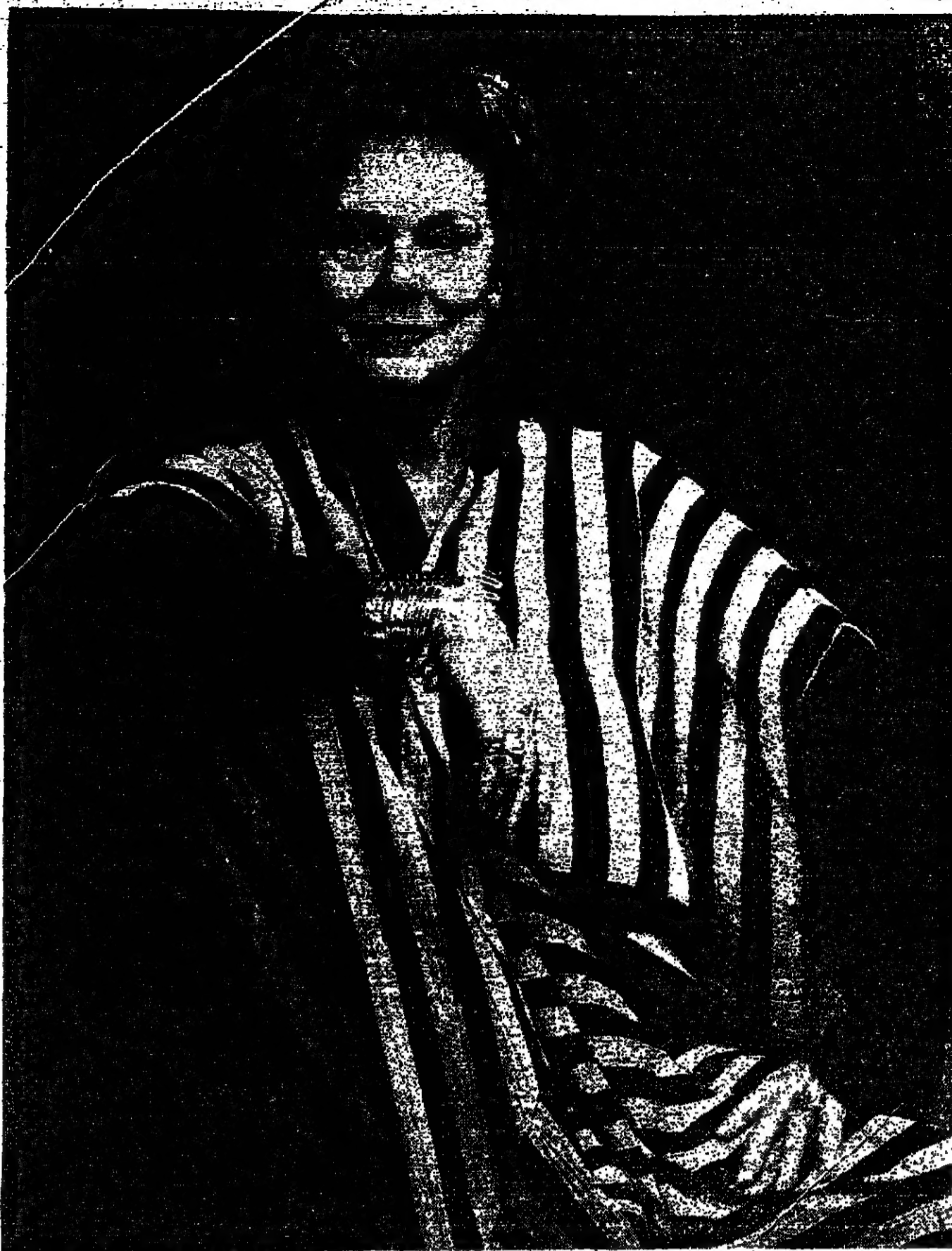
The new director of Voluntary Service Overseas is Mr Neil McIntosh, not Mr David Simpson, as reported on January 3.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 538)

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Passionless (6)	1 Force back (5)
2 Ten cents (4)	2 Merry (3)
3 1960s dropout (5)	3 Boldness (13)
4 Reveal (7)	4 Judge (4)
5 High male voice (8)	5 Of marriage (7)
6 Fear (4)	6 Chest of drawers (10)
7 Folk stories (13,5,5)	7 Trickery (5,5)
8 Same (4)	8 Discharge (4)
9 Strong coffee (8)	9 Celebrity (4)
10 Search (7)	10 Bather (8)
11 Jap. verse form (5)	11 Thriller (11)
12 Navy drink (4)	12 Laundry (11)
13 Nape (6)	13 Whereas (11)
14 Escapist (7)	14 Sharp feeling (4)
15 Small boat (5)	15 Not him (3)

SOLUTION TO No 537
ACROSS: 1 Quail 2 Attic 3 Fuselage 4 Bermuda shorts 5 Aura 6 Houdini 7 Relish 8 Cognate 9 Capture 10 Inflow 11 Urgent 12 Lease 20 Idle

Worth dressing up for the part



三宅一生の発想と展開
ISSEY MIYAKE



Next month, Japanese designer Issey Miyake (above) stages an exhibition at The Boilerhouse. His radical ideas about shape and texture of clothes have won him a fervent fashion following. Actress Irene Worth explains how she has taken his clothes on stage and into her life



Irene Worth and her new coat take to the boards tonight in *Coriolanus*. "Our raiment and state of body would be what state of life we have led," the actress will declaim, as Volturnia to her son.

The tattered rags on view to the National Theatre audience were spotted a month ago behind the plate glass of a shop window. "Most people would not realize that a fashionable designer could produce something for the raggedy look of a city under siege," says Irene Worth. "I never realized when I saw it that I would wear it for myself. I thought those kind of clothes were just for young things."

Irene Worth's love affair with Issey Miyake's clothes started when she went into his London shop to try on the theatrical coat. He is not the first designer, she explains proudly, that she has put on the stage. Zandra Rhodes, Mainbocher and the New York couturier, Valentino, have all appeared in her past performances - after the fashion-aware actress realized their potential.

We met at the studio where the ebullient Miss Worth was explaining to the hairdresser that she wanted her hair to look rumpled and punky, not tidy and matronly.

"I hate anything that is a *la mode*," she says. "I think fashion, that means running with the herd: I love style and original line and vision. Clothes that really say something are eternal. This has youth in it!"

She is wearing a striped tunic and trousers in a tactile weave with sleeves a contrasting liquorice black tulle. With it, she puts a sculptural bracelet, designed by the American sculptor Alexander Calder and borrowed from a close friend.

Irene Worth is 68 and her fashion experience, as well as her acting career, has a wide span. At the time she was most involved with clothes, she dressed in the impeccable tailoring of London designers like John Cavanagh and Michael who made her "one of the most wonderful coats in blue, red and as light as a cloud." In her Valentino couture creations she appeared on stage with Sir Alec Guinness in a modern dress version of *All's Well That Ends Well*.

She was intrigued, she says, by the fashion revolution in the Sixties when she bought Ossie Clark shirts and a flamboyant Bill Gibb leather suit decorated with silver chrysanthemums. In Issey Miyake's clothes, she finds "the marvelous freedom and sense of ingenuity we had in the Sixties."

"Clothes are a natural way of being creative if you are not an artist. It gives every woman the chance to express herself. I adored that ethnic period when you threw on 25 necklaces."

Peter Hall's *Coriolanus* demands a great deal of her as an actress, but the play is in rehearsal at the National Theatre. It runs all this week and again in mid-February and March so that Irene Worth is not faced with constant pressure. Christmas was spent in an escape to the sun.

I was treated to a dress rehearsal of the hot-weather wardrobe in an intricately-cut white-sand coat dress ("will you behold the beauty of this") and then an impromptu theatrical performance in another more dramatic Issey Miyake outfit of checked kimono coat, tunic and wide trousers.

"I appreciate the creative energy that goes into making good clothes," she says. "What Issey Miyake has is a genius for structure that inadvertently is very comfortable. It is a completely new way of constructing clothes that seems almost medieval."

There is another off-stage Irene Worth, who came home from the sun last weekend to a frozen English winter. She wears classic cashmere sweaters "in all the subtle heathery colours that are so flattering to women in the English light."

She recalls tweed bought in Ireland in colours that "seem to hide themselves in sunlight and sing out under an overcast sky." She says she is realistic about her age, but aware of the world she lives in. In the Sixties her skirts were slightly shortened. Now she tries to draw a fine line "between looking dowdy or ridiculous."

Miyake himself claims that his clothes are not especially Japanese; they are rather the creations of a designer who comes from Japan. Irene Worth disagrees.

"This is profoundly influenced by the Japanese," she says of the rugged textures and simple lines. "The great point came into this. Funny enough, I have had for years a passionate interest in classical Japanese theatre where everything has a meaning even if we don't understand it."

Fashion is about change, and Irene Worth has radically changed her own style since the ladylike 1950s and the wilder fashion years that followed.

I asked her if she would be faithful now to the Miyake concept. A puckish smile lit up her face as she replied: "Monotony kills. I am always faithful but I would not like everybody to be wearing it. I must not be a walking fashion plate. That's why I hate rhinestones and all that circus. I was brought up to believe that it is vulgar for people to notice what we wear."

I suggested that some people might think the Miyake clothes (to say nothing of her previous enthusiasms, Zandra Rhodes) made a very bold fashion statement.

"I think they're very quiet clothes," she replied. "They are clothes to admire, not clothes to show off. Good design never shows off."

Photographs by Clive Arrowsmith



Irene Worth wears Issey Miyake's graphic and textural clothes from his new collections at Issey Miyake, 21 Sloane Street, London SW1 and Plantation, 270 Brompton Road, London SW3.

Miss Worth's make-up by Mary Vango

Hair by Debbie Morgan at Daniel Galvin Colour Salon

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Issey Miyake was born in Hiroshima. His clothes are the fall-out of another emotive historical moment - the May 1968 revolution in Paris. The young Japanese designer, who was working in France, turned his face against haute couture and created a revolutionary concept of dress.

"I am Japanese and we have a fantastic tradition not only of art, but of people's minds, lifestyle and nature," says Issey Miyake. In the next breath he will admit that his wrapped and draped garments, flowing from one shape into another, owe a lot to the traditions of couture, especially to Madame Vionnet and her bias cutting.

Miyake's fabrics are indubitably Japanese. His fabric innovations are a hallmark of his style and of the avant garde Japanese movement that has challenged Paris fashion in the 1980s.

The Miyake design studio arranges marriages between technology and traditional pea-

sant workwear to produce a new generation of materials. An Issey fashion collection can contain as many as 300 different fabrics, all with a strong surface interest or contrast of texture. Materials look like tree bark, tactile grass paper weave is followed by shiny, laminated space-age polyurethane.

These textural fabrics are made up into clothes that approximate to the shape of the body but never grasp it. Miyake says that he finds the Western tradition of dress too fitted and that he wants "to make things that are free both mentally and physically". This translates into garments that are free from Western concepts of sexuality and allure, as well as from silhouette and fit.

The clothes lap the body, cut not square and two-dimensional like a kimono, but shaped without creating a line. The garments express themselves as the body moves underneath and they are also mobile: a hood turns into a sleeve or a cape falls chameleon-like into a soft skirt. The exhibition at the Boilerhouse will project Issey

Miyake's strong self-image and his uncompromising sense of design, so vividly expressed in his Paris shows and theatrical Tokyo productions.

I hope it will also show the wittier side of Issey, who may talk like a poet of harmony between body and fabric, but who also makes sculptured breastplates in black plastic and body cocoons plumped up on a cushion of air.

Inside that moulded breastplate bears a commercial heart. Unlike many innovative designers, Miyake's clothes sell in shops around the world (two in London) and to his fervent fashion followers.

Issey Miyake's *Bodyworks*, Fashion Without Taboos, at The Boilerhouse, Victoria and Albert Museum from February 25 until March 28.

TOMORROW

Billie Whitelaw on her unique working relationship with Samuel Beckett

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THE TIMES DIARY

Nitze picking

Paul Nitze, George Shultz's right-hand man at Geneva, must have felt like shooting a missile through the Swiss guards at the Intercontinental Hotel yesterday. When he tried to enter the hotel - the Americans have taken over an entire floor - the guards refused to believe who he was and, despite protests, turned him unceremoniously into the street. Not only have they no respect for age - Nitze is 78 - but their memories are at fault. It was Nitze, after all, who led the US team at the last Geneva arms negotiations. Meanwhile, if there is a shred of optimism over the talks it is not being shown by the Swiss. With their usual tact, they have just declared full steam ahead on a £2 billion project to build a nuclear fall-out shelter for every citizen. Gromyko and Shultz, keep talking.

In the can

The government has been outwitted in its bid to stop the nation chucking over an Argentine film comedy about war. After two screenings of *Funny Dirty Little War* by the Institute of Contemporary Arts in London in November, the Department of Trade last month enforced an embargo on Argentine imports to prevent the ICA repeating it or selling it to television. The institute has now dodged the ban by obtaining a print from New York and will show it for three weeks in the spring. And the BBC has snapped it up for screening in a year's time.



Already?

A reader in Wimbledon, sends me this postmark stamped on a letter he has received. He wonders if he has overslept. Perhaps the Post Office can help?

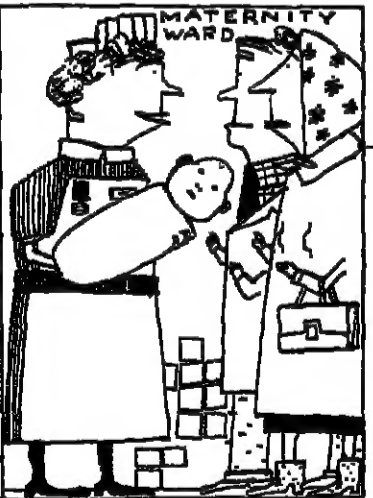
Turbulence

Tony Benn's former PPS, Brian Sedgemoor, who lists in *Who's Who* his sole recreation as "sleeping on the grass," thought he was in for the big sleep last week. On a flight from Venice to Heathrow the intercom blasted out "Attention, attention. This is an emergency..." The steward then burst in, "Relax," he said. The captain pressed the wrong button. It should have been the no-smoking one.

Peak travel

In a *Radio Times* advert placed by the Highlands and Islands Development Board, would-be holiday-makers are invited "Come and broaden your views." Certainly the board could not have broader views: the glossy photograph shown is captioned "The Cuillin mountains on the Isle of Skye." Anyone who knows his mountains will tell you they are in fact the Cuillin on the Trotternish Peninsula.

BARRY FANTONI



"Congratulations. You're the parents of a Private Member's Bill"

Hodder man out

Hodder and Stoughton were in turmoil yesterday after the resignation of Richard Cohen, their fiction editor for six years. They fear that top literary, including Jeffrey Archer, Fay Weldon, V. S. Pritchett, Hilary Spurling and Alan Judd, will follow their favourite editor to Century, where he is to launch a new literary imprint this spring. The money-spinning Archer is understood to be anxious to retain Cohen's magic way with his prose. Cohen insists, however, that "excellent author though he is," Archer's novels would hardly find their way into the highbrow lists he will now compile. Cohen, a British Olympic fencer, is already searching for a name for the new imprint, having rejected suggestions from his father-in-law to call it Sabre. "I'm giving up professional fencing to win the Booker prize for Century," he says.

Two's company

After my disclosure that cocaine-smuggling *Spectator* columnist Taki is to be sent back to America on his release from Pentonville, I can reveal that TV actor Stacy Keach is also to be returned to the US. Keach, who plays Mike Hammer in the Mickey Spillane detective series, is serving nine months - also for cocaine smuggling. He is due for release in June and will see nothing more of England except for a brief flash of greenery between Reading jail and Heathrow. When arrested, Keach was on his way to a London studio to do a TV voice-over. I just hope it carries.

PHS

Put Britain on the Rights road

by Richard Holme

Each year, under governments of both complexions, the citizens of Britain have been increasingly dwarfed by the power of the state, buttressed by its complex and anonymous structure of administration. In the past decade the United Kingdom has been convicted of contravention of the European Convention of Human Rights no fewer than 11 times.

A Bill of Rights is clearly needed. It has the support of a wide range of Conservative opinion. Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, and Sir Keith Joseph, Education Secretary, are among its supporters.

In June, two prominent Tory critics of Mrs Thatcher's policies, Geoffrey Rippon and Terence Higgins, were among 107 Conservative MPs who signed an early day motion calling for a bill incorporating the European Convention on Human Rights into UK law. Yet this government, well into its second term, still does not act.

Some see the reason in the speech Mrs Thatcher gave at the Carlton Club in November in which she betrayed the impatience of someone who regards constitutional reform at best as a distraction from the real issues facing Britain and at worst as an attempt to restrain her freedom of action. In fact the reaction of any other ideological politician would be the same.

A simplistic version of the rules of public life suits all politicians in a hurry. They are at home with a constitution which has no system of checks and balances, and no

possibility of sensible reform. Britain is a unitary state without qualification. It is governed by an Executive responsible in name only to a House of Commons which, with a whipped party majority, may decide what it will. The courts may not peer behind the thick curtains of the state.

As the delicate web of shared assumptions about freedom and the rule of law, tolerance and democracy, is torn apart by the growing ferocity of partisan politics, the constitution stands revealed in all its famous invisibility. The recent furores over the nationalization of shipbuilders without adequate compensation, abolition of the GLC and the removal of the rights of union membership at GCHQ showed that constitutional points of reference, which every other civilised democracy observes, simply do not exist.

Some object that Parliament, through specific Acts, should provide whatever protection is necessary. To this there are several answers. First, Acts of Parliament are necessarily random in their coverage with yawning gaps between them. Secondly, minorities, such as prisoners, mental patients or the handicapped are virtually powerless in making themselves heard. Thirdly, no government, however benevolent its intentions, may be depended upon constantly and consistently to protect the rights of its subjects. Nor, as we know, can the independently-minded MP do very much since the legislature is too often and too much the creature of the Executive.

It is sometimes averred that with a right of ultimate appeal to the European Commission of Human Rights, an obligation imposed by treaty on the United Kingdom, there is no need to incorporate the Convention into UK law. Yet for every citizen with the resources and patience to pursue a case for up to eight years all the way to Strasbourg, there are hundreds more who, finding no remedy in the UK courts, have had to suffer the full weight of Executive power.

Many MPs of all parties support incorporation. Others hang back, suspicious of any measure which would apparently allow the courts to challenge Parliament. But that does not take sufficient account of the freedom of the individual under the law. Parliamentary sovereignty is a necessary but not a sufficient condition of liberty. It must be exercised in a context of respect for human rights.

1988, the last year in which the government can call an election, will be the 300th anniversary of the Bill of Rights of 1688. It would be a fitting celebration for the country which once led the world in constitutional democracy to have ensured the same standard of protection for individual rights that every other civilised democracy now enjoys.

The author is chairman of the Constitutional Reform Centre, which is co-ordinating the new Rights campaign.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

The truth about Nicechapovich



I have frequently drawn attention to a curious habit which many people in this country seem addicted to: it is the habit of hailing every new Soviet leader as a truly enlightened and liberal figure, vastly different from his brutal and obdurate predecessors, who is going to sweep away tyranny in his own country with one hand while encouraging mutual trust and friendship in ours with the other. The addicts of this habit do not seem to notice that they are thus obliged, by implication, to classify their new hero, the moment he goes, as among the brutal and obdurate ones, repeating the reclassification every time they greet the new dawn in the new hero: what they never do is to denounce a Soviet tyrant while he is actually tyrannizing.

Malenkov, Khrushchev, Brezhnev, Andropov, now Chernomerkov: each of them frees the addicts to admit part (usually a small part) of the truth about the previous messiah while hailing the advent of the new one. Indeed, it has now gone so far that the next Soviet leader, Mr Gorbachov, is being promoted in the same fashion, even though Chernomerkov is still alive.

Robert Conquest coined a name for the all-purpose Soviet redeemer: he is Ivan Nicechapovich Peacenikov. But - or perhaps I mean so - it is necessary for us to remind ourselves, before the current Ivan NP is buried with full military honours, of what kind of man he is, or more precisely, what kind of system the Soviet ruler, whoever he may be at any given moment, lives by and directs.

As it chanced, I have information today which does indeed serve to remind us of that which so many voices in Britain are raised in order to make us forget.

First, there is the case of Dr Anatoly Koryagin. Dr Koryagin, as my readers may recall, is a Soviet psychiatrist who committed the one unforgivable crime against Soviet medical ethics: he examined a Soviet dissident who had been incarcerated in one of the Soviet Union's madhouses-for-the-sane, found that there was nothing mentally wrong with the man, and said so. For this, he was sent to a concentration camp, and later to a prison, where he is now reported to be dying; he has been weakened by the hunger strikes he has endured as a protest against the frightful conditions in which he is kept, and as an attempt to persuade the authorities to allow him a visit from his wife. He is receiving no medical treatment: in plain English, he is being slowly and methodically murdered, and by the time these words appear he may already be dead, a martyr to the truth and to his determination to uphold the standards of his profession as a doctor.

The other news I have today emerges from two of the more repulsive aspects of Soviet tyranny: the refusal of the authorities to allow Soviet citizens to leave the country and settle elsewhere, and the increasing, and increasingly institutionalized, anti-semitism which has for many decades been inseparable

from Soviet communism. On the former, the Soviet argument is that all those citizens who wish to leave have already been allowed to do so, so that the thousands of "refuseniks" (who are mainly Jewish) are either non-existent or anti-Soviet slanderers, or even both.

In the Soviet Union, the private or semi-private teaching of foreign languages is encouraged as a socially useful activity. The teaching of one such language, and one only, is forbidden, and the prohibition is ferociously maintained with long prison sentences: the language is Hebrew. The ban is in force partly because of domestic Soviet anti-semitic policies and prejudices (many Soviet Jews, suffering more and more for their identity, have sought solace in the learning of their ancient language), partly because it is the language of modern Israel, which as a Jewish state is *ipso facto* to be condemned, partly because refuseniks (almost invariably sacked from their jobs as soon as they apply for emigration) can take out a living by such teaching, and partly because the ban offers tends to strengthen the determination of those who give the lie to Soviet statements by persisting in their desire to leave the country for ever.

Three Soviet Jews have recently learned what a Jew in the Soviet Union must face if he wants to teach Hebrew to those who want to learn

NUJ members: last call

The ballot for editor of the union's newspaper, *The Journalist*, closes on January 14. All those members who wish to keep the paper out of the hands of the left-wing extremists in the union are urged to vote (by numbers, not with crosses) 1 for PATERSON and 2 for TURNER, and not to put any number by the names of the other two candidates.

it. They are Yuly Edelshstein, Alexander Kholmiansky and Josef Bernstein: they are aged respectively 26, 34 and 47.

Mr Edelshstein, in mid-December, underwent a show trial on a charge of possessing forbidden drugs, viz., one gram of marijuana and eight grams of opium "in the raw stalk". No evidence was given to support the prosecution's case that Mr Edelshstein used such drugs: the militia men who arrested him said that the drugs had been found on a window-sill, though there are no sills to the window of his flat; experts in these matters point out that to make usable opium from the raw stalk is impossible without a laboratory process (to which, of course, Mr Edelshstein would have had no access); and the prosecutor ordered his arrest on a charge of possessing illegal drugs before sending the substances for analysis.

Before the trial, the guards were overheard being briefed; they were told that the defendant was a Jewish nationalist who had been criminally dealing in drugs, and ordered to fill the public seats and prevent any genuine member of the public getting in (in the event, only Mr Edelshstein's mother and wife were allowed to attend). The defence was not permitted to call any witnesses, and Mr Edelshstein was sentenced to three years in prison.

The second victim, Alexander Kholmiansky, was charged with possessing a revolver was a nationalist. These things were "found" in his room in the flat he shares with his parents: the only person in the flat at the time of the search by militia men was Mr Kholmiansky senior, and he was not present when the actual "find" was made. The militia men also planted some Hebrew texts, one of which turned out to be a document removed, in

an earlier search, from the home of another young man who was learning Hebrew: the only possible conclusion is that the production of incriminating documents is so inefficient that some of them have to be used twice. Mr Kholmiansky has not yet been tried, but has been held for more than three months in prison; he embarked on a hunger strike, and when last heard of was being forcibly fed.

The third teacher of the forbidden language, Josef Bernstein, was returning from the consecration of his mother's gravesome when he was attacked by a gang of militia-men. He resisted, and was sentenced to four years imprisonment for "anti-Soviet actions".

In prison, he was so badly beaten up that when his wife managed to get permission to visit him, she could recognize him only by his voice (they have been married for 25 years). The prison authorities claimed that he had inflicted the injuries on himself (he has lost the sight of one eye and much of the sight of the other); they told his wife that unless both he and she cooperated, he would face a new charge of causing grievous bodily harm to himself. When she asked for medical assistance for her husband, it was refused.

After Mrs Thatcher had met the latest Ivan Nicechapovich, she said: "I like Mr Gorbachov; we can do business together." I have to remind her that, in an earlier day, there were senior figures in the Conservative Party who liked Herr von Ribbentrop and who not only could but did "do business together" with him. Happily, their approbation did not save him from subsequently being hanged for, among other things, complicity in persecution and murder.

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As the Royal Doulton grazes my scalp...

Kensington. (despatch delayed)

Day One of Harrods Sale, and there I was picking my way over the slumped bodies who had succumbed to the heat and pausing only to disentangle the odd Japanese from my raincoat. I wove my way through the dynastic harridans who man Perfumery and fetched up at the swinishly silly delight at the cool serenity of the Emergency Stairs.

I sopped up the most worrying of the perspiration with a rag I always keep by me and started bobbing up the stairs as if hell breathed fury behind me, for the art of the first day of the Sale is never to stop for a moment; even pause for a milli-second and you usher in all the sensations of despair, utter foolishness and the panic of poverty, not to say, rendering yourself liable to be trampled to death - for the first-day sales shopper is a mean and vilely determined animal, as I was to discover as I attacked the fortified mountains of porcelain and glass.

Now I had been there on

reconnaissance a few days earlier when they were setting it all up. I had watched a young man in a trance tapping down the lids of hundreds and hundreds of Wedgwood bonbon boxes. Who on earth was going to buy them all? A couple of dais were stapling felt on to the treble tables that were soon to hold more china and glass than it is possible to imagine could ever exist. Rather touchingly, they had been discussing the colour scheme of the differing baizes, and now on Day One you couldn't even see the china, let alone the tables, so walked in was it by a mass of sweating grim-faced resolve, apparently long-starved of plates.

Entire families (the youngest detailed to go for saucers) jostled with single ladies in opulent furs. One woman from not around here stumbled under the weight of a Royal Worcester tureen and her yashmak slipped so that nothing of her face was visible save the moustache. When I went to assist her she hissed, "My husband, he kill

you" so I hot-footed away, deftly skirting a man who demanded of his wife that she inspect his rear for he was convinced that something was sticking in him. From my vantage point it looked like a piece of Coalport shrapnel but now I was being barged on by a very large man clutching eight of those taped Wedgwood boxes, and so hard was he barging that I only narrowly averted a 32-piece tea service having

One young woman hit me with her tote bag, which seemed rather unfriendly, and more so when she did it again. The gist of the gesture was that I was standing where she wanted to be, and plainly she intended to carry on this assault until I did something about it. The trouble was I couldn't move because a truly ancient crumbly lady was slumped at my feet, embracing a pair of decanters. I was unsure as to whether or not she had died, but certainly the handbag-thumping was becoming vexing and you know how it is in the heat of the moment - I

sort of shimmied down to the old lady's level and slid a hand over her face to see if she was breathing and then she was shrieking, "Mine! Mine!" and clutching the decanters to her with all the zeal of a red-hot lover.

I had more or less had enough by now, and the need for fresh air was strong. The last person to have proved beyond a reasonable doubt that he had felt less than warm in Harrods was presented with a hamper and given a round of applause. Nothing of the kind had ever happened to me, my entire body assuming all the patina and stature of a Sumo wrestler whenever I'm in the place. But now I was thrashing through the doors into the blissful siest of the Brompton Road and I thought I would chance a taxi. The Green Man courteously ignored me and then I heard, "Is him Kill Kill!" and it was the lady in the yashmak and I thought I shouldn't bother with a cab after all for it seemed such a nice afternoon for a run.

Joseph Connolly

Roger Scruton

Dr Owen's faulty prescription

It is an established convention that the prime minister seeks recommendations from the leaders of the other main political parties before advising the Queen as to who might fittingly be named in a list of honours. The present Labour leader has adopted a policy of stalling on recommendations; in the circumstances, this is to be expected. It is more surprising to find the same policy pursued by the leader of the SDP. For the SDP's appeal rests in its claim to combine broadly socialist - or at least interventionist - policies with an underlying respect for the principles and procedures of the British constitution.

Of course, a constitution is a living, changing thing, with vital, and also decaying, parts. The Labour Party believes the House of Lords to be already decayed and fit for amputation. If it rejects the idea of the honours system, however, if Labour has a serious principle from which such conclusions follow, it is that the entire constitution, in so far as it limits the power of a future socialist government, is a nuisance, and had better be done away with. Not so the SDP, which respects the idea of constitutional government and owes its success to the public belief that it would not, as Labour promises to do, make "irreversible changes in its own favour. If it rejects the idea of political honours, therefore, it is for some other reason than hostility to the principle of constitution.

As things stand, political honours serve two very important purposes. First, because they include peerages, they enable the prime minister to ensure that the Upper House contains members valued by the opposing parties, and competent to speak for them. If Dr Owen believes - as he seems to believe - in the persistence of the House of Lords, ought he not to ensure that his party is properly represented in it?

Secondly, and more importantly, political honours serve the function of debanking politics. Honours issue from the Crown, and are granted for services to the Crown and to the people represented in the person and office of the monarch. All of us are grateful when our favourite actor, conductor or footballer is honoured. For the Crown is the symbolic representative of a community and, by conferring in our private enthusiasm, it gives them public authority and objective force.

Politicians may also be honoured, and when this happens, the status of the individual is raised, while that of politics is lowered. We come to see that honour is higher than power, and that power does not suffice (although it may help) to secure it. Through the system of honours, therefore, the public is enabled to perceive two vital distinctions: that between authority and power, and that between the sovereign state and

the powers which strive for influence within it. Honours clarify the logic of politics, and emphasise precisely what is most precious in our constitution, which is that political power is at every point checked and distinguished by the authority which stems from another source. By highlighting a politician, the Queen reminds him that it is she, not he, who rules the country. And in accepting the honours, the politician shows his loyalty not only to the sovereign but also to the constitution which designates his power.

Moreover, the honouring of politicians, while it lowers the status of their calling, also reconciles the public to them, by showing that politics is, after all, as honourable as football. Politicians should be grateful for this. However, such is the arrogance of their profession that they frequently affect to despise these innocent tokens of public esteem, believing themselves to enjoy the eminence that can only be diminished by symbols as ceremonial and ineffective as a knighthood or a CBE.

Politicians who reject the honours system should therefore be looked upon, with the gravest suspicion. They may, like Mr Benn, affect an unworried contempt for dignities and titles; a righteous refusal of all personal reward for their services to a higher cause. But you can be fairly sure that their real motive is quite different from that which they would like you to ascribe to them. Their real motive is power, and the desire to ensure that power becomes the single source of worldly influence, and the final title to respect. By appropriating all honour to themselves and their calling, politicians hope to extinguish the major limitation of their power: the Crown itself, which is the true representative of the British people.

Since Dr Owen believes in limited politics, and lacks the Labour Party's philistine contempt for custom, he ought to show his acceptance of our way of life and institutions in the most painless manner available to him. He should endorse the system of honours by making his own suggestions for future beneficiaries. No doubt he was as pleased as the majority of British subjects at the peerages conferred on Len Murray and Frank Chapple. No doubt he too was delighted that Naomi Mitchison, tireless champion of the true Fabian persuasion, should have been honoured alongside the greatest Wagner conductor since Furtwängler. But to feel this delight, while not supporting the institution from which it flows, is to neglect a vital public duty, obedience to which may yet prove necessary to the SDP's survival.

The author is editor of the Salisbury Review.

Peter Kellner

And e'er the twain shall meet

This morning I can announce the solution to a mystery. Last week the BBC's *Today* programme announced that its listeners had chosen Arthur Scargill as man of the year and Margaret Thatcher as woman of the year. How, it was asked, could the intelligent audience of such an excellent programme come to such a perverse pair of conclusions?

The answer is simple. It flows from the fact that the programme insisted on two winners: one man and one woman. In fact there was a single victor. The prize should have gone to the anonymous personality who has transformed British politics - Martha Scarghill.

Scarghill is a special kind of leader. *S/he* is a conviction politician who plays to win, and refuses to accept the best available compromise. "Give and take" does not figure in Scarghill's vocabulary. "moderate" is a term of abuse. If Scarghill were a chess player there would be no question of ever offering or accepting a draw: each game would be fought to a final checkmate, even if that took months.

For Scarghill's supporters - on picket lines, in boardrooms and among the more strident journalists in papers large and small - such death-or-glory approach to everything is exhilarating. Each challenge is clear-cut; each issue is simple. There is no need to be distracted by morale-sapping doubts: either we win or they do, and blow the rules.

The miners' strike has revealed the true character of Scarghill's politics. The present strike is quite different from previous disputes. The findings of the Whitford inquiry in 1972 and the Relativity Commission in 1974 gave the miners largely what they wanted - but the point was that the process by which those disputes were settled commanded almost universal respect.

(One of the enduring fallacies of our age is that the miners destroyed the Heath government in 1974 and won their strike only because Labour won the election. In fact the miners' victory was the result of Mr Heath's decision to mount a relativities inquiry into miners' pay; that inquiry unearthed evidence that confirmed the miners' case quite independently of the fact that a general election campaign was under way.)

Scarghill's approach is to resolve the miners' strike not by widening the area of consent, but by highlighting the degree of conflict. *S/he* enthusiastically promotes the strike as a necessary battle between rival class interests - a battle only deferred by the conciliatory, ramby-pamby approach of past leaders. Scarghill takes pride in both delivering and accepting insults about "the enemy within".

Absolutely central to this approach is the need for unquestioning loyalty by Scarghill's supporters. Scarghill was elected on a platform that explicitly repudiated the style of the previous leadership, but having obtained that mandate, *s/he* has little need for further ballots - on whether to strike, for example, or who should run the coal board, or who should be chairman of the Conservative Party.

Instead, Scarghill offers leadership and demands obedience. It is only by securing discipline in the ranks that *s/he* can hope for victory. From this it follows that doubters must be silenced. Dissenters are not regarded as people with a legitimate right to speak their mind; they are "scabs" or "wags". Scarghill has anything to do with *s/he* would never speak to them again.

Instead Scarghill has developed the great populist facility of using television to speak directly to the public. In each interview *s/he* knows exactly what *s/he* wants to say, and says it, whatever the interviewer asks. "If you will allow me to finish, Sir Robin," is a favourite Scarghill expression. *S/he* takes great care, too, over the way *s/he* looks: no appearance can take place until every golden strand of Scarghill's hair is carefully in place.

The impact of Scarghill's politics is likely to endure. One specific consequence concerns the role of the police. Scarghill has no time for the traditional view that the police today perform a neutral role. Instead, *s/he* sees the police force as an arm of the state. *S/he* believes passionately - along with most Marxists and members of the Institute of Directors - that there are fundamental defects in Britain's social system; and in any conflict that results, it is inevitable that the police will be required to take sides.

In the long run I do not believe Scarghill's politics will survive, because its accumulating costs will prove unacceptable to voters. What is less clear is who will benefit from its defeat. There could be no more savage irony than if it were to be the Liberal/SDP Alliance. For although the Alliance appears to be the exact antithesis of everything Scarghill stands for, they share one lethal obsession: a conviction that there exists no legitimate and rational opposite political group with whom power should alternate.

What David Owen and Steel, like Martha Scarghill, fear most in 1985 is a revival of tolerant and compassionate Labour and Conservative parties. The rest of us can only hope that those fears prove to be empty justifications.

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EDUCATING TEACHERS

Public education is at a turning point. As a statement of demographic fact, that is unexceptionable. The next half-century will inevitably require the reorganisation of schools and the redistribution of teachers as the system adjusts to the trough in numbers of primary school children, and an approach to the minimum of those in secondary schools. Local authority schools could advance, their teachers freshly motivated for the task of giving youth the stimulus and anchorage to face a world of economic change. In so doing the teachers would re-build a public confidence jarred by the precipitate and ideological reorganisation of secondary schooling. They might recruit new parents, employers and communities dismayed by professional *amour propre* that not only built a thick wall around the classroom but concealed also the enthusiastic response of many teachers in their laboratories and curriculum discussions, in the new technologies and opportunities of the 1980s.

At issue now is the realism of a proud profession, one of whose enduring traits has been a slight distance from the comings and goings of a hard world. The career structure for school teachers is unsatisfactory. It provides too few incentives for younger teachers. It rewards the wrong qualities, it is ill-suited to the shake out that demography and curriculum change demand. Sir Keith Joseph's outline of a new structure hinged on new tests of teachers' prowess, as described at the North of England Education Conference on Friday, is an alien intervention; it follows closely the proposals from the local authorities published last autumn.

Questions abound. What is the role in this assessment for parents, for employers, for other members of schools' sadly-under-utilised governing bodies? Where are the safeguards against mariners in the head-teacher's study? The construction of a career for the good teacher who is to be encouraged to remain in the classroom rather than become an administrator for the sake of "promotion" will be costly and Sir Keith must be more specific on how far change can be financed from the pool, how much additional cash is required.

These are points for negotiation but a principle needs firmly and clearly to be struck now. Professionalism - for example, the commitment to a job that leads teachers to give up leisure hours - is a valuable dimension to the public employment of teachers. But professionalism cannot substitute for managerial discipline. The division between teachers' pay and teachers' hours and quality of work evident in the split between the Burnham negotiating machinery and local authority conditions of service committees is a nonsense made no more acceptable by the fact that in five years Mrs Thatcher's government has not dared tamper with the Remuneration of Teachers Act. What Sir Keith is belatedly proposing is the application to the schools of the simplest - and highest - norms of management, by measuring hours and quality of work against payment. Nothing in such a project need damage the ethical dimension of education. In present circumstances, teachers have everything to gain.

To effect change Sir Keith's tools are cumbersome. Ultimately he can promulgate national regulations, yet even those would require the sincere adherence of both local authorities and head teachers. Persuasion is a preferable method to compulsion, and it is a pity that Sir Keith does not have, like some of his predecessors at education, more of the touch of the propagandist, able to communicate the validity of his schemes to the classroom teacher whose anxieties are genuine but whose desire for a better-ordered school is great. Against Sir Keith stand one, perhaps more, of the teachers' unions. A month ago, the National Union of Teachers walked out of negotiations with the local authorities on reforming the career structure; the same union, channelling the hopes and fears of its members into the single conduit of "militant" action, often led locally by political militants who would be the first to be exposed by a better system of teacher appraisal, threatens months of disruption.

Against this barrier to educational progress - a union whose leaders seem to have learnt their rhetoric in Mr Scargill's school of blue-collar negativism - Sir Keith has two weapons. He must, one, continue to preach the gospel of qualitative change and, perhaps, reveal more of his sweeteners for the new professional career teacher. But, second, he must refuse the NUT claim of more money for nil change in educational and professional practice. To budge would be conclusively to throw away the once-for-all opportunities for reform thrown up by these unprecedented reductions in numbers of children at school.

NEW NEW CALEDONIA

When central government faces a violent separatist minority and a passionately unitary majority in the same territory, British minds inevitably turn to Ulster. The French government has at least two such problems on its hands at present. The less serious is in Corsica: it is a mess but not yet a hopeless one, because, as we remarked last Summer, there is "no clear religious - cultural - demographic of majority and minority".

At the other end of the world, but still French, lies New Caledonia. There the divide is not religious (many of the natives are Catholic) but most definitely cultural and, what is worse, racial. Those who want independence are native Kanaks (Melanesians). Those who want to stay French are settlers - mainly French but needing to carry other immigrant labourers from less remote places along with them to up the arithmetical balance in their favour.

The forces are so evenly balanced that there is no real chance of either acquiescing peacefully in the other's victory. So Mr Edouard Pisani, President Mitterrand's special envoy, has looked for a way of giving both of them the essence of what they want: an independent state with all the trappings of sovereignty, such as UN membership, for the Kanaks, but continued association with France, which would remain responsible for the territory's external defence and internal security, for the settlers, whose rights would be guaranteed. The capital, Nouméa, would have a special self-governing status taking the bizarre form of a long-term lease from the independent government to a special mixed committee.

An ingenious proposal, but one which apparently defies a primary rule of logic: the law of the excluded middle. A state, one would think, is either independent or not. The presence of foreign forces is not the litmus test, but their use when it comes to internal security surely is. Are they to take orders from the independent government? If so, how can France guarantee the position of the settlers after independence? If not, how can the state be called sovereign? The precedent of the 1969 constitution in Cyprus, with its similar combination of entrenched communal rights and foreign guarantees, comes to mind. It is hardly encouraging.

It is not hard to foresee that the crunch would come on the issue of land ownership or at least land use. A Kanak-dominated government would be bound to try to reclaim some land from the settlers, and any resistance from the settlers would turn the problem into one of internal security, which France would then have to arbitrate.

But politics often have to defy the laws of logic, and it is by no means certain that M. Pisani's critics have any better solution to offer. The settler demand for a simple reassertion of law and order is hardly good enough, given the delicate demographic balance and the fact that many of the settlers are of very recent vintage. It is here that the parallel with Ulster most obviously breaks down - unless it were to be drawn with Ulster of the 1640s rather than the 1980s.

The most obvious and immediate problem is to get a majority for M. Pisani's proposals in a referendum. Apparently the Kanaks are willing to give them a try, presumably reckoning they represent the best that can be achieved before a French right-wing government returns to power and that nominal sovereignty once achieved would naturally tend to develop into real sovereignty. The settlers, fearing just that and having every reason to hope for a French right-wing government next year, will be difficult if not impossible to win over. Will the disenfranchisement of those who have less than three years' residence be sufficient to tip the scales? It will be a very near thing. Is more violence, before and after the poll, the only thing that New Caledonians can confidently expect?

THE LIFE OF THE SOVIET MINER

Donbass miners have contributed a million troubles to striking British miners as a demonstration of solidarity, according to Tass reports. As if to prove how well Soviet miners are integrated into the government of the USSR, Mr Gorbachev's delegation to Britain included a section head from a Donetsk mine, Mr Ivan Strelchenko, who is in the youth affairs commission of the Supreme Soviet. Not only the British families that enjoyed Black Sea holidays are impressed by labour relations in the USSR; the English-language broadcasts of Moscow Radio frequently carry interviews with visiting British trade unionists who praise the absence of unemployment, strikes and class barriers.

We have indeed many severe labour problems requiring urgent solution, and should of course be prepared to learn from other societies. But the real lessons of how workers live in the USSR are often concealed behind the propaganda mirage and Potemkin village of the official tour. There is in fact unemployment, although on a relatively small scale; there is no unemployment benefit; however, there are occasional strikes and even some evidence of major worker riots when tens of thousands of demonstrators were suppressed by troops and ringleaders later executed. It is usually reports of before the first western reports of

these disturbances can be properly substantiated.

More widespread, however, are the difficulties caused by underemployment and miserably low wages. At the official rate of exchange the Soviet miners' troubles are worth almost as many pounds, but since roubles cannot legally be taken out of the USSR, a Soviet tourist would be lucky to buy even the present shrinking pound for each smuggled five-rouble note. The average industrial worker receives less than 300 roubles a month, including various allowances from public funds. Rents are very low, but so are housing standards. The Soviet press gives some shocking examples: a new five-storey block of flats collapsed just before it was due to be occupied; another has no services long after the first residents have moved in.

This makes the Soviet miners' stature all the more generous, if truly given. They are better paid than most workers in the USSR, but suffer from the same periodic shortages of even the most mundane consumer goods, from rags to scissors, from flour to meat, wasting hours in queues and black-market queues. But vodka can always be found and alcoholism is a major problem. Trade union officials, chosen by the party, rather than their fellow workers, devote their efforts to increasing production

rather than to improving pay and conditions. Mining accidents and illnesses were reported by *Trud* to be rising in the deep narrow seams of many older Donetsk mines, now approaching exhaustion, work is deplorably hard and dangerous. Vladimir Klebanov, a miner who tried to establish a free trade union, told western correspondents about the high rate of deaths and injuries; he was incarcerated in a psychiatric hospital. The mining engineer Aleksei Nikitin suffered the same fate because he revealed the truth about a fatal explosion. He died last year after deliberate mistreatment.

The few western experts who have had permission to visit Donetsk coalmines reported levels of methane gas well above the danger level for explosions; safety equipment was decades out of date. There is no excuse for people in the West who make naive claims about the superiority of working conditions in the USSR. It is not necessary to read Russian or to go down a Soviet mine to learn the truth. There are many reliable eye-witness reports and scholarly analyses (see for instance *The Soviet Worker*, edited by Leonard Schapiro and Joseph Godson, Macmillan, 1984) which demonstrate that however we seek to improve our labour relations, it will not be by following Moscow's example.

A stark choice for Ireland

From Lord Lytton
Sir, On Christmas Eve you reported the Cardinal Primate of all Ireland as saying that there would be no change in Northern Ireland whilst Mrs Margaret Thatcher remained Prime Minister.

From a lower level of importance I suggest that there will be no change in Southern Ireland whilst Cardinal Tomás Ó Fiaich remains Primate.

The change sought by the cardinal is acceptance of Irish unity by the North. By contrast the change sought by many of us is acceptance of British unity by the South.

Reverting to 1922, I witnessed in grief and indignation the partition of the British Isles to appease Dublin. At the time I suspected that such a move was not in accord with the wishes of the majority. In this clearly I was mistaken.

Being a fervent adherent of the right to political self-determination wherever possible (art. 1 of the UN Charter) I have long come to support the "freedom" of Southern Ireland from Westminster.

The right claimed by Dublin from Westminster and granted by Westminster some 60 years ago is the same right which Belfast claims from Dublin and which Dublin has denied for some sixty years.

To my sorrow I have witnessed other prime ministers selling minorities "down the river" in the interest of peace - a peace to be followed by instant war sustained by the British taxpayer.

The ills of Northern Ireland have at their root a Dublin statute which, in my eyes, puts Northern patriots in a slot with traitors and Northern terrorists with crusaders for freedom in the odour of sanctity.

Unity would bring no solution - rather it would precipitate the culminating disaster for all Ireland. Without total recognition of permanent partition, as permanent as the partition between Dublin and Westminster, there will be no progress of note, and the cardinals of the twentieth century will not be free from blame.

Yours faithfully,
LYTTON,
House of Lords.

Royal engagements

From Mr T. C. M. O'Donovan
Sir, I have again carried out a survey of the engagements carried out by the Royal Family during 1984, as reported in your Court Circular.

Category	Number
Official visits, opening ceremonies, and other appearances	12
Receptions, lunches, dinners and banquets	10
Meetings, including the Privy Council	8
Audiences given	5
Number of days spent travelling abroad on official tours	12

On official tours abroad the Queen carried out 12 engagements. The Duke of Edinburgh 238, the Queen Mother 9, the Prince of Wales 112, the Princess of Wales 5, Prince Andrew 44, Princess Anne 233 and Princess Margaret 25.

In addition, the Queen held 45 investitures and the Queen Mother 3. As in previous years, I have not included the weekly audiences given by the Queen to the Prime Minister. The confinement and the birth of Prince Henry considerably reduced the number of engagements the Princess of Wales was able to carry out.

Yours faithfully,
T. C. M. O'DONOVAN,
Mariners, The Avenue,
Datchet, Berkshire.

Put to rights

From Mr Charles Wintour
Sir, Your diary item (January 3) about the suggestion that I should edit the *UK Press Gazette* is quite inaccurate in saying that I am an almost obsessive critic of "bingo and the gutter press". I have no objection to being named as an element in the entertainment mix of a tabloid. What I dislike is the escalation of the prizes to the millionaire level, with all tabloids involved except for the *Mail* newspapers, cannot make economic sense and which has grossly distorted editorial news values on any number of occasions.

Yours also wrong, so far as I know, in stating that Clive Sandground is to be literary editor. At a time when you are devoting so much space to hosannas of self-praise you might give a little more attention to accuracy. How are the mighty fallen, indeed.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES WINTOUR,
Top Flat, 5 Alwyne Road, NI.

Royal Irish Rangers

From General Sir George Cooper
Sir, I hope that Lord Cork and Orrery's letter (December 28) will not fool anybody with its special pleading. He states that the Royal Irish Rangers "are the only fully Irish regiment remaining in the Army List and recruiting almost wholly in Ireland" and bases his subsequent (military) argument on this fact. What about the 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards, the Queen's Royal Irish Hussars, the Irish Guards and the Ulster Defence Regiment itself, all of whom are in the Army List and perhaps with the exception of the first, recruit almost wholly, if not entirely, in Ireland?

Coalmining questions awaiting reply

From the General Secretary of the Inland Revenue Staff Federation
Sir, Earlier this week Mr Michael Eaton, of the Coal Board, spoke of a need for a negotiated settlement irrespective of the numbers of miners who return to work.

His wisdom should not be allowed to go by default, but it seems to me that any settlement is highly unlikely unless and until there is sufficient clarification of Britain's future energy policy.

There is now a strong case for much more information than we have about the future balance between the major sources of energy, especially as we know the basis on which that balance is to be struck.

As it is we are unable, any of us, to see the whole picture. Yet miners are being urged to come to terms with a situation so unclear that it remains distinctly threatening to them.

To the best of my knowledge, it has never been stated authoritatively that, over the next decade, there will not be a 70,000 to 100,000 reduction in the number of miners. Whatever reduction may be in prospect, again, it has never been explained or justified except on the now very questionable and certainly controversial concept of the "uneconomic pit".

So what are some of the areas upon which light should be shed? To start with there is energy pricing policy, the impact of the Government's "yield on capital" targets and the borrowing limits placed upon the NCB. By definition these have to be arbitrary and artificial.

The CEBR, I understand, could have saved £85 million in 1983-84 burning coal instead of oil. The price of electricity has gone up 60 per cent since 1982 against a retail price index rise of 39 per cent.

There is the issue of coal imports. It is alleged that, currently, most that comes to Britain is dumped, but extensive new overseas supplies will

soon be available, given the large investment by oil companies in coalmining, notably in cheap-labour areas - South Africa and South America.

Of course we must ensure both national security and supply security; but there are environmental and social considerations as well as economic ones. So it is pertinent to enquire whether present policy is influenced, and if so to what degree, by the huge revenue yield from petroleum tax.

Lastly, it is surely not good enough to say that Mr Scargill's absolutism on "uneconomic pits" is untenable without, at the same time, declaring as unsatisfactory the NCB's very doubtful formula.

A pit's economic performance is clearly related to the scale of investment in it. Calculations of the cost-effectiveness of further investment should embrace the social and DoE/DHSS costs which would arise without it.

We are entitled to expect the minister, now that a strike (estimated to have cost £2.4 billion so far) has brought the whole energy issue to the surface, to provide answers.

May I urge Mr Walker to reflect. Energy policy is critical for the whole economy. We need a blueprint of that policy on to which could be grafted a revised Plan for Coal.

If the secretary of state convinced those immediately concerned that he would bring this about and in an acceptable way, then perhaps the National Coal Board could suspend the closure plan *vine die* and the National Union of Mineworkers would accept that there will be some closures for reasons other than exhaustion or safety - and return to work.

Yours faithfully,
TONY CHRISTOPHER,
Inland Revenue Staff Federation,
Douglas Houghton House,
251 Vauxhall Bridge Road, SW1,
January 4.

Nuclear deterrence

From Lord Trenchard
Sir, Do you not over-emphasize the importance of what differences there are between the USA and the UK on defence and deterrence in your leader of December 28?

I suggest first that both countries know that for the next decade or more peace must be underwritten by the deterrent knowledge in the mind of the potential aggressor that offensive nuclear weapons could, or would, be used to halt or repel aggression should they be needed.

Secondly, I suggest that the governments of the USA and the UK have not swallowed the Russian propaganda that any use of a nuclear weapon in defence would lead to retaliation by the aggressor rather than the cessation of that aggression. The latter is the more logical because the objectives of the aggressor would have become unattainable at any conceivably acceptable cost.

Thirdly, I suggest that there is complete agreement that provided we do not let the Russians doubt our will in these respects there will continue to be no aggression but peace in Europe.

Fourthly, I suggest that everyone knows that both superpowers will continue to work on ABM (anti-ballistic missile) and satellite-based systems. After all, one purpose of advanced missile systems like Trident is to ensure potential penetration into the next century and thus the continuance of credible deterrence should that be necessary and should adequate agreements

with Russia not by then have been made.

Fifthly, I believe that the experts on both sides know that it is no more likely in the future than it has been in the past that defensive systems will gain any permanent superiority over offensive systems, particularly in three-dimensional air or space. Cleverer technology will be applied to both. This will include technology which can be varied at the last moment. This would seem to increase the advantage of surprise which has always been held by the offensive.

The idea that Western technology can make defensive weapons superior is, to my mind, a mixture of a highly desirable aim and wishful thinking. The same applies to the other fashionable desire to raise the nuclear threshold by developing cleverer conventional weapons and thus offset the massive Russian preponderance in numbers.

Both are excellent aims, but until there is evidence that the technological gap in favour of the West has ceased to shrink, it would be folly to base defence policy on such wishful thoughts. I believe this is well understood on both sides of the Atlantic.

In democracies allowance must be made for the different phasing of desirable nice-sounding but sometimes wishful politically inspired initiatives. Are the differences over policy really any more than that?

Yours sincerely,
TRENCHARD,
House of Lords.

Embryo research

From Dr M. G. R. Hull
Sir, Church ministers, through your columns and members of Parliament (through Hansard) would have complete respect for human embryos from the moment of fertilisation. But neither religious nor Parliament do so in fact. They do not allow burial in sacred ground nor require registration of a birth until 28 weeks' gestation.

The is not a deadline accepted by clinical scientists, who do their utmost to save babies born several weeks before it. And what of parliamentary legislation? Induced abortion? There is no logic to it. But that is beside the point.

The point is the distinction between human material and human nature. The Reverend Dr N. M. de S. Cameron refers (December 5) to his toe-nail clippings, but he would not cut them to the quick; it hurts. Sensibility determines the respect we give living things.

It requires organisation of a system of nerves to transmit sensory impulses from where they are "felt" to the brain where they are actually recognised. Thus whilst human nature depends on a particular genetic code carried by every human cell it can only be expressed through complex organisation of the cells.

The first signs of the nervous system appear in the human embryo after more than two weeks. In the first week the cells of the embryo are so lacking in organisation that any one of them could, if split off, develop into a complete human being. The newly fertilised egg is a wonderful thing, but it does not yet have human nature.

There are many people who accept that but are fearful of where experimentation on such cells could lead. It obviously must not lead to the growing for research of human beings, that is, even at an early foetal stage, with human form and feelings.

Dreadful possibilities are used as reason enough to clamp down totally on the scientists. But there are dreadful possibilities in everyday life, human nature being what it is, and laws to protect against them.

Lord Denning's contention, that the only logical point at which the law could start is at the moment of fertilisation is entirely legitimate. It is simply convenient, but neither logical nor appropriate. Scientists in the field of human *in-vitro* fertilisation welcome regulation, but let us not be overruled.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL HULL,
Bristol Maternity Hospital,
Bristol, Avon.

recruit training "would be to strike a blow at the regiment from which it might never entirely recover" is laughable in its exaggeration. Our infantry regiments are made of sterner stuff.

I am not privy to MoD deliberations, but I imagine there would be no objection to the regimental headquarters remaining in Ballymena if that is what the regiment desired, but let us not procrastinate further over the rationalisation of the training.

Letters such as those from Lord Cork and Orrery are red herrings - the Government is adamant that Northern Ireland remains part of the United Kingdom and the training of a few recruits elsewhere will not affect that resolve, and the IRA knows this.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE COOPER,
The Army & Navy Club,
Pall Mall, SW1,
December 29.

ON THIS DAY

JANUARY 8 1919

The Spartakusbund or Spartacus League was formed in Germany in 1914 by Rosa Luxemburg, together with Karl Liebknecht. Its aim was to end the war through revolution but its influence on the course of the war was slight. The two were assassinated in Berlin in January 1919 following the proclamation of the Republic in November 1918. After the armistice the movement had a degree of acclaim in the country and was a factor in the many armed clashes in Berlin during January 1919.

SCENES IN THE STREETS MUCH EXCITEMENT AND LITTLE BLOODSHED

BERLIN: JAN 8. The appearance of the streets in the neighbourhood of the Imperial Chancellery and facing the Chancellery itself is comparatively calm. Occasional rifle firing is heard and now and then a cannon-shot, but the impression is that blank cartridges are being used. Someone has just been brought out of the Chancellery, but it cannot be a wounded man. Armoured motor-cars with soldiers arrive without interruption; others leave with arms and ammunition.

It appears that Liebknecht's supporters have not the courage to risk a conflict at present. Meanwhile, tens of thousands of the population are demonstrating for the Government. Bloodstains are noticeable in Friedrichstrasse, but compared with the scene in the Wilhelmstrasse the street presents a rather pleasing appearance. Here they are firing, there they are firing.

Little change occurred up to half-past 5. Only here and there a shot discharged. The soldiers in front of the Imperial Chancellery are armed and the whole plan of the population in the streets is shut off. There is still a crowd of about 10,000 behind the military cordon. A seaman throws a hand-grenade on the plaza and two wounded are removed by a Red Cross motor-car. This act of the seaman excites the crowd and shortly afterwards the seaman is removed being himself severely wounded. Some wounded are reported in front of the Imperial Chancellery. *Parlamentarier* appear at half-past 4 in the front of the Chancellery and request admission in order to negotiate. But the Government rejects any negotiation, and informs the crowd from a window in the Chancellery that it has paid no attention to the agitation to-day, but it will not tolerate it to-morrow. Volunteers will be appealed for, and there are sufficient arms. Recruiting offices will be opened, and arms and ammunition will be distributed to soldiers and civilians. The Government will round up the Spartacus people to-morrow in their nests and smother out the nests themselves. Troops loyal to the Government are approaching with guns.

Meanwhile, there has been firing in Unter den Linden, and it is said that three persons have been wounded. In the Wilhelmstrasse later on the public were told to go home. The stream of the people discharges itself into the neighbourhood of Unter den Linden and the Friedrichstrasse flowing along both sides of the street. Liebknecht's supporters on the left, while on the right the crowd raises cheers for Ebert and Scheideemann. At 6 o'clock guns were trained from the Castle on the Wilhelmstrasse. There was also firing in front of the War Ministry, resulting in three passers-by being wounded and two apparently killed. Altogether so far, the killed and wounded number 20.

When we were young

From Mr Tom Baistow
Sir, As the reprint you published on January 2 reveals, John Walter I was able to produce the first issue of your newspaper in 1785 with only half-a-dozen minor printers' literati and one duplicated paragraph, despite all the difficulties involved in a pioneering project.

Would it be possible, in the interest of the sensibilities of your pre-Portfolio readers, to reintroduce the ingenious logographic system, "cementing several letters together" to form whole words, to which I refers in his p 1 puff?

Yours faithfully,
TOM-BAISTOW,
Savile Club,
69 Brook Street, W1,
January 4.

A peal for the 200

From Mr R. M. Wood
Sir, It is traditional in this country to mark special events by the ringing of church bells. This may take the form of a full peal, which is defined as being not less than 5,000 changes, all different. A full peal is the ultimate performance on church bells and takes about three hours, depending on the weight and number of bells. All full peals are recorded and published in the ringers' newspaper, *The Ringing World*.

On January 1 eight members of the Lichfield Archdeaconry Society of Change Ringers rang a full peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major at Codrall, in Staffordshire, as a bicentenary compliment to *The Times*. The peal took 2 hours 43 minutes.

Congratulations and best wishes for the next 200 years.

Yours faithfully,
R. M. WOOD,
137 Netherbridge Avenue,
Lichfield,
Staffordshire,
January 2.

Scant courtesy

From Mrs Susan Thomson
Sir, In a computer print-out relating to my work (I am a peripatetic violin teacher) I am registered by the education authority as follows: Initial S (side Mrs Sex F).

Yours faithfully,
SUSAN THOMSON,
35 Eley Drive,
Rottmangean,
Brighton,
Sussex,
December 18.

THE ARTS

Galleries
The tactful view
of huntingThe British Sporting
Heritage/The
Charleston Artists
Sotheby'sInuit Eskimo
Museum of MankindPaul Tanqueray
Photographers' Gallery

Considering all that has been happening of late, from the distempers of Mars bars to the desecration of graves, it is bold, perhaps almost foolhardy, of Sotheby's to put on a loan show devoted to the British Sporting Heritage, from the collections mainly of members of the British Field Sports Society (until January 21). Mind you, it is a very tactfully selected show: of Landseer, for instance, we get *The Monarch of the Glen* and the relatively discreet *Death of the Stag in Glen Tilt* as a slight reminder that these creatures are also killed in sport, but not the - to modern sensibilities shocking - ferocity of *The Hunting of Chevy Chase* or *The Otter Speared*. Indeed, there is relatively little taken in the show that any killing actually occurs to make field sports into blood sports: for the most part the pictures are of calm English landscapes decorated with horses and dogs and a few riders picturesquely dressed in hunting pink, or men and boys negligently holding guns and hounds at rest.

Given that limitation - indeed no doubt partly because of that limitation - it is a very agreeable show. Perhaps too many undistinguished Edwardian paintings of hunting and stalking scenes: Lionel Edwards is all very well, as a sort of glorified magazine illustrator, but a little goes a very long way. On the other hand, there are some fascinating and unfamiliar works from earlier on, such as the three paintings from the series by Francis Barlow and John Vandervorst, separately or in collaboration, for Shardeles House towards the end of the seventeenth century, in which both Barlow's animals and Vandervorst's portraits are much to be admired. There are more obscure pieces still which can give a lot of pleasure, such as the pair of anonymous early eighteenth-century pictures of men and dogs which provide evidence of what the spaniels of the time and the long-extinct Wiltshire Hound (wonderfully

majestic and melancholy) actually looked like.

There are also, among the incidentals, curious wooden pieces which John Chinaman or the Man from Mars might well suppose to be ritual objects: that extraordinary altar to the gods of hunting, shooting and fishing the Alcott Park Buffet of 1851, and the earlier but scarcely less odd Welsh oak cupboard-front of c.1550, carved with hunting scenes which look more likely to have emanated from Benin. It is illuminating to compare these celebrations of British sport with the artworks of the Inuit Eskimo on show at the Museum of Mankind throughout 1985. Almost all of them, of course, are associated one way or another with hunting, the central fact, and central necessity, of life in the North American Arctic. The concept of artwork in fact hardly occurs: beautiful as many of the ivory and wood carvings are, they are all either directly functional in the processes of hunting or getting about in the Arctic, or have a ritual significance which was no less real or practical to their makers. Particularly elegant and sophisticated are the curved walrus-ivory snow knives inscribed with hunting scenes or depictions of the quarry. But equally appealing are the small bone and ivory animal figures, the curved snow-goggles and the wood and ivory scrapers used in dressing animal skins. It is unfortunate that, when the Inuit started producing art as art, the results are so much inferior.

Back at Sotheby's, though on the other side of the building, is a show which could hardly present a sharper contrast with *The British Sporting Heritage*. If there was one thing that the Charleston Artists - Vanessa Bell, Duncan Grant and Their Friends (also until January 21) were emphatically not interested in, it was the whole business of hearty English philistine sport. That, at least, was the way they tended to look at it: in earlier generations it might have been perfectly possible to be an enthusiastic huntsman and at the same time a refined patron of the arts, but by the Bloomsbury era one had to choose between the two cultures. Everything in the Bloomsbury life (except the specifically urban element in the household) was epitomized by Charleston, the Sussex home of Duncan Grant and Vanessa Bell, and the show is organized by the Charleston Trust, which exists to ensure the integral preservation of the house and its contents.

Most striking as one looks



"Calm English landscapes decorated with horses and dogs and a few riders picturesquely dressed in hunting pink": John Ferneley's Equestrian portrait of Viscount Tanworth with huntsman and hounds (1808)

around this loan collection of largely unfamiliar works from the group is the extraordinary importance accorded to art within the art. Most of the interiors and still-lives not only contain incidentally, but positively feature, other works by friends and associates, such as the Omega cat in Edward Wolfe's painting, or admired works from elsewhere, as in two remarkable late Grants, the Queen Mother's splendid *Still Life with Matisse* of 1971 and *The Sharaku Scarf* of 1972.



Vanessa Bell's owlish Self Portrait (1958) (detail)

On the whole the paintings, when they are not interiors of some kind, are portraits: the group seem to have recorded one another's appearance obsessively, the painters being depicted whenever possible painting. Some of the images are very well known, like Simon Bussy's dazzling caricature of *Lady Ottoline Morrell* or Vanessa Bell's rather owlish *Self Portrait* of 1958, but there are others of which it is good to be reminded, such as Roger Fry's delicate, almost vulnerable portrait of

the young *Edith Sitwell* from Sheffield. Indeed, the two Frys in the show, taken in conjunction with others which have recently surfaced in Omega shows and even the Academy's *Post-Impressionism*, do suggest that a show wholly devoted to his art might be illuminating: though he can surely not be one of the great unsung, he looks like a much better painter than his lofty reputation as a critic might lead one to believe.

The Bloomsbury Group aimed to be the Beautiful People of their day, at least in terms of their sensibilities. Few of them would seem to have achieved beauty in the more literal, physical sense, as far as one can judge from the evidence in this show and elsewhere, though Vanessa Bell's 1930 *Portrait of Duncan Grant* does give one some idea why he should have been the cynosure of both sexes. But, if you are looking for the physically beautiful and glamorous of the inter-war period, you could hardly do better than visit the Photographers' Gallery and see the show devoted to the work of Paul Tanqueray, who will be celebrating his eightieth birthday during its run (it is on until March 1).

Tanqueray was - dread phrase - a leading society photographer. He began in 1923 as an assistant to Hugh Cecil,

already vastly successful in that line, set up his own studio the next year (at the age of 19) and continued to photograph the rich and famous until the late Thirties. He retired for the duration of the war and afterwards set up again, in a more modest way in Chelsea. Though the show contains at least one stunning picture (of Vivien Leigh) from this postwar period, for the most part it covers the heyday of the Bright Young Thing.

In his early work Tanqueray made lavish use of soft focus, often setting his sitters against glowingly indistinct backgrounds to create a feeling of glamorous untouchability, as in the great series devoted to Tallulah Bankhead and Anna May Wong. Later he abandoned soft focus and produced some very surprising images like that of Gertrude Lawrence in a striped dress against a spotted curtain, anticipating Op Art, or the rather surrealistic series of 1937 devoted to Cecil Beaton and his photographs, in one case pinned all over him. Either way, his sitters were beautiful - and, if they were not, he made them so. If these puritanical days, we find that difficult to accept as a serious artist's goal in life, the Tanqueray show should make us stop and think again.

John Russell Taylor

Concerts
Blowing for funBritish Flute Society
Queen Elizabeth Hall

To tell the truth, there is not much flute music that I really care for. But it was only right and proper that the British Flute Society should have honoured the memory of Marcel Moyse with this concert. The man's influence on flute playing has been, and remains, a profound one.

In any event, Moyse would have approved thoroughly of this programme, most of which was given by players who experienced his teaching. For him, the sensual aspect of music mattered more than anything cerebral. In his eyes, the rambling proportions of Tulu's Grand Solo, Op. 79, would not have outweighed the work's charm, though he might have had something to say about Charles Dagnino's rather monochromatic interpretation.

Nor would the indulgent, but nevertheless sparkling, wit of two Taffanel *Fantasies* - one on Thomas's *Mignon* (played by William Bennett), the other on Der Freischütz (Edward

Beckett) - have done anything but thrill him. As Bennett explained, he loved a good tune, especially if it came from an opera.

The rest of the solo music was more sophisticated. I liked the open sound of Peter-Lukas Graf in Widor's relatively fast Suite, Op. 30, and its witty ending was perfectly brought off, thanks to the alertness of Anthony Hirst, whose piano accompaniment was sensitive, if occasionally a little timid.

Michel Debost's lower register was strikingly penetrating in Gaudet's Nocturne and Allegro Scherzando and in Saint-Saëns's delicious Romance. But Susan Milan, in Enescu's *Cantabile et Presto*, and Aurèle Nicolet, who played George-Henri's *Fantasia*, scored more points for imagination in their choice of music as well as for the compelling quality of their playing.

To begin and end there was some Dvorak and highly sentimental Faust arranged for a whole choir of flutes directed by Trevor Wye. A nice idea, but the same sort of noise could be obtained from a quartet of musical saws.

Stephen Pettitt

Purcell Quartet
Wigmore Hall

Lightening instrumental and vocal timbres, thinning out ensemble textures, bringing unwritten assumptions about ornamentation from the periphery to the centre of attention - these practices need never weaken baroque music's intensity, and may indeed help reflect its emotional message more truly. This crucial lesson taught by the rediscovery of the eighteenth-century performing style was reiterated again, and in marvellous manner, by the Purcell Quartet (not "string quartet" but "lute sonata" in format) and the soprano Emma Kirkby.

Moreover, their recital tapped the vast repertoire of rewarding music which will almost certainly be swept aside by the coming Euro-blitz of Bach and Handel. Not that much is heard of Jean-Pierre Rebel in any year: a pity, since his *Tombé de Monsieur de Lully* (an elegant tribute from one of Louis XIV's composers to another) proved to be an unexpectedly entertaining catalogue of instrumental fashions at Versailles, with mournfulness confined only to an affecting contrapuntal movement serving to highlight Richard Boothby's sensitive and supple gambus playing.

Earlier, in pieces by Vivaldi, attention had rightly been on the violinists Catherine Mack-

intosh and Elizabeth Wallfish, whose concern with minute details of phrasing and articulation would have seemed almost too fastidious, were not allied to a most subtle and imaginative dynamic scheme. In particular, they achieved the remarkable feat of investing each of Vivaldi's 20-odd variations on "La Follia" with a separate character, improvising delicate rhapsodic scales in the slower movements and tackling the allegros with virtuosic audacity. Even Robert Woolley's brash exploitation of the harpsichord's rattling percussive qualities seemed entirely appropriate in the finale.

Miss Kirkby gave an exemplary display of two totally contrasting styles of baroque singing. In Vivaldi's double-aria cantata *Gemé l'onde* she brought a radiant security to a vocal line that curls, scurries and leaps through an enormous range. But still more impressive, perhaps, was her interpretation of Rameau's pastoral cantata *Le Berger fidèle*, where every tragic nuance was superbly controlled, and each crucial ornament placed perfectly for maximum expressive effect.

Richard Morrison

● A special scholarship has been awarded by the Peter Stuyvesant Foundation to mark the fiftieth anniversary of Glyndebourne Festival Opera. The scholarship, worth £2,000, has been awarded to the baritone Jeremy Munro.

Television

Manoeuvres of misbehaviour

BBC1 for the next six weeks provides fans of *The Boat* with an opportunity to bring themselves up to date on life below the ocean waves with *Submarine*. It began last night. *Million Pound Captains* was the first of two parts dealing with the "Perisher" course. This is deviously devised by the Royal Navy to test whether aspiring captains have the performance to match their ambitions. It is said to cost £1m a man and, if they fail, their careers there is no second chance.

Four officers manoeuvred HM Submarine Oracle in turn against three misbehaving frigates turning to attack off the Isle of Arran. They performed not only under the eye of the camera but that of Commander Dai Evans, known as "the teacher", who is also an examiner. All four stood up to the enthusiasm of schoolboys given a chance on a grand prix circuit, but Commander Evans pronounced that, in the real business, two were doing well, one not so well, and one was beginning to struggle. We will know who came through next week.

The photography, by Mike Radford, was superb and the drama considerable, not needing the over-emphasis of John Nettles's narration. Jonathan

Crane produced. I for one will be taking further dives. David Niven made 91 films, many of them rubbish, took an Oscar for *Separate Tables*, and died bravely at 75 before a terrible disease, maintaining his charm and immense popularity. There may be no such thing as the epitome of an Englishman but Mr Niven, perhaps, is what we, and certainly Hollywood, might imagine it ought to be. He was gentlemanly, a trifle raffish, well-groomed, witty and, we heard in Barry Norman's *Hollywood Greats*, on BBC1, universally popular.

He was successful quite late as a writer. The best things in the programme were Mr Niven himself demonstrating just how brilliant a raconteur he was. The tales apparently varied but not the execution.

So far as the films were concerned, Peter Ustinov sagely excused the rubbish: actors had to earn a living. Fair enough. John Mortimer, Ann Todd, Deborah Kerr, Douglas Fairbanks Jr. of course, Delbert Mann, Bryan Forbes and Mr Niven's sons, James and David, were among the character witnesses. The sons provided the only hint of shadow on a sunny reputation. Gin, they said, had a bad effect. Under its influence, their father had massacred them verbally. He gave it up when told.

There is no end of "Hollywood greats", of course, and, though Mr Norman's programmes cannot reveal all, this, like most, was immensely watchable.

Dennis Hackett

Dance

Median
Sadler's Wells

Stephen Montague, the American composer of the work premiered by Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet last week, describes his style as a fusion of romanticism and minimalism, and it would be hard to dissent. On first acquaintance it is a strong score and it seems to me that most of the credit for the highly enthusiastic applause that greeted *Median* must go to the music.

He has taken an existing piece, *At the White Edge of Phrygia*, changed it from a chamber work to one for full orchestra, and added a prologue. The powerful opening chords, crisp and emphatic, and the subsequent acceleration create a rhythm like that of a train pulling away and gathering pace; and the railway image recurs even in the more agitated rhythms of the later section. Brass and percussion dominate at first, and often thereafter, but there are also passages of hushed expectancy for strings and bells.

Jennifer Jackson, the choreographer, has been led by this music into a boldly forceful style. The prologue is set for Marion Tait with a group of six men, who pass her one to another along the line, invert her, lower her, form couples to prevent her escape. The way they partner her is curt and

dismissive; an unusual and interesting effect.

With the main part of the score, the stage is abandoned first to five more women; there follow passages for the whole cast, and a protracted sequence in which Tait and Stephen Wicks, Leanne Benjamin and Nicholas Millington take turns in brief fragments of double-work that echo the brusque antipathy of the opening section. Throughout the ballet, there is a theme of male aggressiveness and female defensiveness.

It looks rather striking, but I suspect that like Jackson's last creation, *Common Ground*, it is likely to give its all at first sight, and subsequently to provide rapidly diminishing returns. The reason for that the lack, save at brief moments such as a tiny solo for Benjamin, of any real impetus and flow in the movement: instead, it relies heavily on grandiloquent gestures and static poses.

No complaints about the dancing, which was excellent from Tait especially in the most exposed role, but also from other soloists and the whole cast. They made their effect in spite of hideous and eccentric costumes by Ella Hühne, which added pale blue to the red and purple of the setting, all in geometric shapes.

Barry Wordsworth, back in the pit as guest conductor, secured a wholly convincing orchestral account of the music.

John Percival

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156	0.7	2.7	3.1
157	0.7	2.7	3.1
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159	14.3	14.3	14.3
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162	10.8	10.8	10.8
163	2.7	2.7	2.7
164	2.7	2.7	2.7
165	2.7	2.7	2.7
166	2.7	2.7	2.7
167	2.7	2.7	2.7
168	2.7	2.7	2.7
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170	2.7	2.7	2.7
171	2.7	2.7	2.7
172	2.7	2.7	2.7
173	2.7	2.7	2.7
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175	2.7	2.7	2.7
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193	2.7	2.7	2.7
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196	2.7	2.7	2.7
197	2.7	2.7	2.7
198	2.7	2.7	2.7
199	2.7	2.7	2.7
200	2.7	2.7	2.7

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871	+	2.16	2.16	18.8
37	+	18.0	4.7	18.8
328	+	14.4	5.5	18.8
368	+	10.4	2.8	18.4
144	-	3.28	2.2	19.4
127	-	8.8	5.0	22.8
887	-	7.6	3.4	20.7
163	-	2.5	1.8	
280	-	8.8	3.3	18.1
640	-	13.4	3.1	20.5
788	-	27.4	3.8	71.1
183	++	8.7	3.7	
72	++	4.8	11.8	7.3
100	++	1.8	1.8	88.2
88	...	2.8	3.3	7.5
235	...	3.1	3.5	

176	+	17.3	8.8	7.0
178		1.0	8.8	7.3
180		6.8	27.7	7.1
190	+	4.3	2.9	53.0
200		3.1	2.4	18.3
210		11.9	7.6	10.3
220		4.1	6.0	10.0
240	-	4.8	3.8	8.5
250				8.8
260	-	7.9	8.0	20.0
270	-	2.2	2.2	16.6
280		7.8	8.7	8.6
300	+	11.4	2.3	41.7
320		12.7	2.8	26.9
340		9.8	2.6	36.5
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203	-0.5	8.7	2.0	27.1
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205	-0.2	8.3	2.5	30.6
206	-0.4	12.8	4.3	25.7
58				
113	-0.2	4.0	3.5	28.1
102	-0.2	13.8	13.8	11.9
89		0.7	1.5	
126	-0.5	5.8	8.3	6.1
207	-0.5	7.7	9.4	3.8
208	-0.5	7.9	3.1	30.9
313	-0.5	8.1	8.1	7.5
88		6.1	6.5	12.3
212		14.5	1.2	28.2
95		1.5		

321			1.46	4.1	14.2
192			10.7	4.1	19.5
160			5.5	2.9	27.4
126	-1		3.3	2.5	22.5
5			3.3	2.5	22.7
			6.1	1.4	22.9
60			3.7	4.3	4.1
600			4.5	0.7	21.0
210	-2		12.4	4.5	10.4
147			4.4	4.5	19.6
82	-1		5.4	6.2	21.1
137			5.1	4.2	12.0
157			10.0	6.2	22.2
122			1.7	2.5	22.4
87			5.1	2.0	22.5
435			5.1	2.0	22.5
68	-2				

193		1.3	3.2	23.6
536		14.3	3.7	18.1
539		14.3	3.7	20.7
625		17.1	3.5	37.8
781		20.0	4.7	28.2
147		6.7	9.9	48.1
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PFING

226		12.1	8.0	7.7
230	• -1	3.3	2.5	38.1
209	• -1	3.3	2.5	22.8
178		4.4	3.8	44.9

57	17.8	2.6	73.5
54	8.9	3.0	47.7
4%	24.9	2.2	62.2
23%			
38			6.3
120%			1.8
314	8.4	2.1	
20	17.0	2.7	12.6
75			2.9
368	7.3	0.5	12.4
	11.4	2.1	

176	11.9	8.0	8.9
34	8.1	8.0	7.7
280	8.8	8.6	9.0
85	5.9	6.1	14.4
82	8.5	8.8	7.2
185	8.7	8.8	6.9
143	3.2	2.2	32.5

FILES

S10	18.3	3.5	10.6
106	2.1	6.7	12.9
71	4.3	6.1	6.0

100	..	8.5	8.5	12.5
76	..	8.8	8.3	8.9
30	..	0.4	8.5	6.3
159
92	..	6.5	4.5	6.3
132	..	5.4	2.7	0.1
44	..	6.3	4.8	6.2
267	..	1.4	3.3	23.5
123	..	16.7	4.2	13.3
145	..	8.8	3.9	18.2
66	..	6.4	4.5	7.6
51	..	0.1	0.1	..
90	..	3.2	6.9	8.2
52	..	4.4	7.1	9.6
95
53	..	1.4	1.3	..
..	..	3.8	7.2	16.2

53	•	71	6.9	8.6
50	•	81	8.2	17.4
73	•	79	8.2	32.1
78	•	87	7.5	34.2
29	•	13	14.8	3.8
228	•	3.8	4.8	3.2
30	•	21	7.1	4.3
96	•	6.8	7.8	4.8
156	•	5.4	7.5	8.2
40 ²	•	8.8	8.8	9.8
130	•	4.6	3.8	18.2
34	•	2.9	6.4	4.8
94	•			
87	•	8.2	5.5	8.6
50	•	5.7	8.8	8.6
125	•	1.7	5.7	11.5
38 ²	•	3.4	6.3	11.4

	-3	8.2	5.6	10.0
ECOS				
351	+19	12.6	3.4	8.3
164	+10	17.5	5.9	12.6
189	+13	8.9	4.7	4.7

overcast during c Corrected
 conv. f Price at suspension.
 n Special settlement. At Bid for
 n Informal estimate. Cc
 n Ex sett or short sale.

ate dealings. No significant

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

The Post Office way to people's capitalism

Had your eyes strayed from the picture of Selma Scott on page 13 of *The Times* yesterday you would not have missed a large advertisement: "The Easy Way to Buy Gilts."

The method advertised is not new: for years the National Savings Stock Register, usually referred to still as the Post Office Register, has been gently gathering dust and about £1 billion of stock - a tiny fraction of gilts in issue. It needs little imagination however, to see the central role the NSSR might play in the people's capitalism.

Why, in fact, are we waiting? Did no one in Whitehall think of opening the register to British Telecom shares, admittedly not a government stock but a symbolic issue in its historic relationship with the Post Office and the first great propagation in Britain of popular share ownership?

There are two advantages of buying government securities by picking up a form at the Post Office and despatching it to the Bonds and Stock Office in Blackpool. The commission charged is very small and interest on stocks on the NSSR is paid without prior deduction of tax. It is not necessary to know or deal with a stockbroker or banker.

There are also disadvantages: the maximum amount of stock that may be bought in one day is £10,000, although there is no limit on the total amount invested, and no certainty that an order will be executed on the day it is received (and no certainty about the day it will be received). It may be, and it is, should be done the day after. As timing is one of the two essences of Stock Exchange dealing, the variable nature of the Post Office and the lack of instant response to orders might prove costly. There are two other disadvantages: not all government stocks can be dealt in through the Post Office, though the great majority can, and orders cannot be marked with a specific price.

If people's capitalism is to become more than a gleam in Mrs Thatcher's eye and not die with the submission of Telecom telephone vouchers, better marketing and vastly improved retail distribution of stocks and shares are the keys.

The Telecom flotation showed what could be done in selling shares to a wider public if sufficient able minds and adequate incentives were applied to the job. But selling or buying in the stockholder's case, is only a third or at best half the story. Investors need efficient and easily understood ways in which to sell and perhaps to deal. The NSSR is an existing mechanism crying out to be brought up to date and put to new work.

The opportunity does not stop with the register. British Telecom already had the technically excellent but grossly underplayed, interactive Prelim. Here the brokers Moore, Govett has shown the way, offering a dealing system to owners of Prelim television sets who register with them as a closed user. For a commission of 1.65 per cent, the budding Baruch can sit at home in the evening and key in his instructions to Moore, Govett.

Moore, Govett's pioneering was rewarded by the encouraging business it has done in television. The response on approximately 400 clients who have taken to the service is encouraging. If nothing else it should encourage the Government and Telecom itself, to examine the possibilities as a matter of urgency. The floating of British Airways would give them a magnificent opening.

Cassandra with an ambiguous look

M & G Group, one of the leading unit trust managers, today continues its almost single-handed role as the Cassandra of the City's rust to break down its traditional demarcation lines through the current series of proposed mergers among brokers, jobbers and bankers.

Hitherto David Hopkinson, the M & G's redoubtable managing director, has been a standard bearer of ethical

purity. But in the group's annual report the chairman, Andrew Caldecott, weighs in with a view that "ultimately we may be driven to the creation of the equivalent of a Securities and Exchange Commission. This would destroy a great deal of the flexibility and swiftness of action which have always been the City's hallmarks."

He reiterates the house line that the main danger is the new City combines will face irreconcilable conflicts of interest. More parochially, but no less importantly, Mr Caldecott adds his concern as to whether there will be an adequate market in the smaller equity issues so beloved of unit trusts and the smaller investor.

Just to underline the point, Mr Hopkinson takes up the cudgels - and in so doing demonstrates an intriguing ambiguity within M & G's own orbit. He boasts: "We have always acted as agents rather than principals in relation to our clients and will continue doing so. We do not deal for our own account in securities."

That suggests that M & G does not own a single share. But then Mr Hopkinson goes on: "Our independence ensures that where we are large shareholders in companies, we are able to exercise responsible ownership."

The answer to this conundrum is that M & G, in common with other unit trust companies, manages the shares on behalf of its unitholders. They are the ultimate owners. But in respect of many everyday decisions - buying and selling the shares, accepting or rejecting takeover bids, voting for or against the re-election of directors - M & G acts precisely as if it were the real shareholder, and its managers are treated as such by the companies in its portfolio.

M & G tacitly acknowledges this potential conflict by investing its own free reserves only in unit trusts, not directly in equities.

While Messrs Caldecott and Hopkinson loudly protest their autonomy, sceptics point to the fact that 42 per cent of its own share capital is held by Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bank and active tactician in a never-ending stream of stock market deals and new issues. And Kleinwort is planning to buy both a broker and a jobber in the current merry-go-round.

Fair-weather friends desert gold

There is nothing worse for gold than falling commodity prices, redoubt health for the world's number one reserve currency, a virtual absence of inflation fears and a new hope of East-West détente. A relentlessly strong dollar and apprehension about oil prices combined to force gold down to \$295 an ounce yesterday morning, the lowest London price since August 1979. It is widely expected that further falls are in store.

Physical demand carried the price up from the morning fix of \$296.25 to an afternoon fix of \$298.25. But amid brisk dealing the metal felt back later in the day to close at \$296.50, a full \$3 below Friday's close.

The pattern of trading indicated that each fall was succeeded by renewed interest by those who actually use gold, but this was in turn offset by profit taking by speculators holding short positions. The market psychology is that after several unsuccessful attempts to climb back over \$300 an ounce, gold is set to fall again.

Futures confirm this view. The February contract in London ended the day at \$298.50, an improvement on the opening of \$296.80, but \$8.50 below the close on Friday. Spot silver shed 17.5p to \$107.25p.

Gold's weaker tone was set early in the day by reports of Middle Eastern selling. But dealers said that the underlying factor was the attraction of the dollar and the possibility that dollar interest rates will rise again.

Indeed, the trouble with the magic metal is that it will only recover its fair-weather friends when there are renewed signs of gloom and financial disruption.

Pound falls to \$1.1445 despite forecasts of base rate rise

By David Smith and David Young

The pound dropped 93 points to a new closing low of \$1.1445 yesterday, despite market expectations of a small rise in bank base rates this week. The weakness of sterling which at one stage traded at \$1.1400, helped push up money market interest rates.

Dealers cited dollar strength, uncertainty over oil prices and weekend confirmation of the official "hands-off" policy on the pound as contributing to the fall. The pound dropped nearly 1½ pence against the dollar to DM3.6375, and the sterling index fell 0.3 to 72.6.

The dollar was boosted by money supply figures for the United States, showing a \$6.7 billion rise in the latest reporting week. As well as oil price worries, the pound was hit by continued selling on concern over the miner's strike. Trading volume was heavier.

In the money markets, interest rates firmed again, the three-month interbank rate closing at 10½ to 10¾, up ¼ on Friday's closing level. The Volume of business was light

ahead of today's provisional money supply figures for banking December, but yesterday's money market rates could justify a rise in base rates from the present 9.5 to 9.75 per cent level to about 10.5 per cent.

The range of stockbrokers' forecasts for the money supply in banking December is wide, ranging from minus 1 per cent at Capel-Cure Myers, to plus 0.5 per cent at Griverson Grant and Laing & Cruickshank.

The bank lending figure is regarded as even more important than the crude sterling M3 rise on the month. The top of the range of brokers' forecasts suggests bank lending of slightly more than £2 billion during December. This will be regarded as a bearish sign for interest rates.

The most frequently heard view in the City yesterday was that "bad" money supply and bank lending figures, by which is meant anything more than a small rise in the sterling M3 measure of money, would not necessarily guarantee a base rate rise. However, it would leave



Peter Walker: £45 million cash injection for BNO

the pound open to oil price uncertainties and pose the threat of an even larger base rate rise later.

The Government's oil trading operation, the British National Oil Corporation, appears to have accepted another month of trading losses by selling 800,000 barrels a day of its throughput from the North Sea during January at spot-market related prices.

By selling its January output at spot-market prices BNO

appears to have gone along with requests from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to leave prices unchanged for at least a month.

The corporation had been expected to announce cuts this month in its official price structure no standing at \$28.65 a barrel compared to the official Opec price of \$29.

By buying in oil at its official price of \$28.65 from producers on contract and then selling it to refiners at spot-market rates often two dollars a barrel less BNO has been incurring losses between £15 million and £20 million a month. Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy, has approved a £45 million cash injection to cover losses.

In the first nine months of last year British demand for petroleum products rose by 16.2 per cent compared with the same period in 1983, reflecting increased oil burning during the miners' strike. Total consumption was 60.3 million tonnes, compared with 51.9 million tonnes in the same period in 1983.

Financial services role for Deloitte

By Ian Griffiths

Deloitte Haskins and Sells is to become one of the first accountancy firms to take an active role in the financial services revolution with the creation of a separate corporate financial strategy division. The firm is now seeking an experienced City figure to head the unit which should be set up in the next few months.

Deloitte is also establishing a personal financial planning group designed to advise senior executives on pensions, investment strategy and taxation. The service will be launched at the end of the month.

The two new divisions will be staffed by present employees to a large extent although the firm will also be recruiting personnel with additional skills.

The moves are part of Deloitte's long-term strategy, agreed last September before details of the proposed merger with Price Waterhouse were known. Implementation was delayed during the merger negotiations which were abandoned before Christmas after the proposals failed to win the approval of PW's partners in Britain.

The firm has also restructured its senior management team. Mr John Bullock, who takes over as senior partner on May 1 when Mr Eric Meade retires, has appointed Mr Chris Strong as deputy senior partner and Mr Alan McPetrich as managing partner from the same date.

Deloitte's venture into the financial services sector in such a clearly defined fashion is already being seen as direct competition to some of the more established operators, in particular the merchant banks.

The US Congress next month will launch a year-long series of hearings into the accountancy profession, focusing on its relationship to the largest business failures of 1984.

Mr John Dingell, the Democratic chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee, said he has scheduled the unusual hearings to examine the roles of both the large "big eight" firms and smaller companies in recent crises at institutions such as Penn Square National Bank, Continental Illinois National Bank and the Illinois Corporation of America.

A Congressional side said there is growing concern among Congressmen that false or misleading audits were involved in some of the more prominent business disasters last year.

Mr Dingell said his inquiry would cover the broad areas, among others, the independence of auditors, the adequacy of their disclosures, the industry's compliance with standards, and the effectiveness of industry self-regulation of accountancy firms which, in effect, certify the results of huge publicly-held companies.

US presses industry on EEC steel pact

From Bailey Morris Washington

Reagan Administration officials have scheduled a series of meetings today with US steelmakers to persuade them to accept a new accord on steel pipe and tube exports which they will hope end one of the most contentious trade issues in recent years.

The accord, announced early on Friday after telephone calls between officials in the US and Europe, would restrict European Economic Community exports of steel pipes and tubes to 7.6 per cent of the US market until the end of next year.

It was the second attempt in two months to resolve diplomatically the trade dispute. An earlier agreement negotiated in November collapsed when President Reagan decided to impose a ban on all European exports of steel pipes and tubes.

Mr Reagan defended his action on grounds that European steelmakers were violating a 1982 agreement by flooding the US markets with three times the volume of exports negotiated by the two governments.

European products, largely from Italy, France and Greece, which were en route to US markets when the November 29 ban was imposed were impounded and are still sitting in American warehouses.

Woolworth stake for Bradman

By Alison Eadie

Rosehaugh, the property company run by Mr Geoffrey Bradman, had exercised its option to buy £2.36 million 11 per cent convertible unsecured loan stock 1989 in Woolworth Holdings.

The option was acquired for a nominal sum in September 1982 in the institutional buy-out of Woolworth, which Mr Bradman helped to engineer.

The stock is convertible into Woolworth shares between July 1985 and 1989 on the basis of one share for 150p of stock. Full conversion would give Rosehaugh 1.57 million shares, or 1.95 per cent of Woolworth's equity, worth £9.1 million. Woolworth shares close 2p higher at 578p. When the option was granted the shares stood at 150p.

Rosehaugh said the decision to exercise its option was purely an investment decision.

Rosehaugh still holds a further option, not yet exercisable, to subscribe for 1.08 million shares at 150p between 1985 and 1987. At a cost of £1.6 million Rosehaugh could acquire a holding with a market value of £6.2 million.

This second option was also picked up for a nominal sum. If it too were exercised Rosehaugh could end up owning 3.3 per cent of Woolworth.

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Government sell-offs top £2bn target

By Jonathan Davis Business Correspondent

With three months of this financial year still to go, the Government has already reached its target of raising £2,000 million from privatization and other asset sales.

The Treasury said last night that the first tranche of proceeds from the British Telecom share issue, coupled with the latest auction of North Sea oil licences, has now brought its asset sale total this year to £2,030 million.

The total, the largest of any year since Mrs Thatcher was elected, in fact undercuts the extent of the Government's privatization effort, since it does not include three sales - Jaguar, Sealink and Wych Farm - where the proceeds went to their former state industry owners.

The fact that the Treasury has now reached its £2,000 million target is one reason why the

Policy group to study exchange rates

The Public Policy Centre, a research body headed by the former MP Mr Dick Tavener QC, was launched yesterday. Writes Our Economic Correspondent, its first contribution to the economic debate will be the report of a committee set up to examine exchange rate policy.

This committee, chaired by Lord Croom, former Permanent Secretary to the Treasury and head of the Civil Service, will examine critically the Government's "hands-off" policy for the exchange rate.

Its members include Professor Marcus Miller, Professor John Williamson, Professor

Profits soar

Ellis & Everard, distributors of industrial chemicals in Britain and the US, improved pre-tax profits by 61 per cent to £1.87 million for the six months ending October 31. Earnings per share, adjusted for the recent scrip and rights issues, are ahead by 23 per cent.

Tempus, page 17

Dr Dickson Mabon, the former Labour minister who was defeated as an SDP candidate in the 1983 general election, yesterday joined the board of Hollis Bros. & E.S.A., the school desk maker which is controlled by Pergamon Press - the main company of another ex-Labour MP, Mr Robert Maxwell.

Strong quarter

Official figures confirmed the strength of company profits in the third quarter. Excluding the North Sea, industrial and commercial company profits rose 15 per cent in the July-September period, to stand 20 per cent up on the same period of 1983.

Liffe surge

Turnover on the London International Financial Futures Exchange almost doubled in 1984 from 1.36 million to 2.59 million lots, the International Commodities Clearing House reported yesterday.

Ramada to take over new hotel

By Judith Hamley Commercial Property Correspondent

Ramada, the world's third largest hotel chain, looks set to replace Sheraton, another US chain, as the operator in Speyhawk Land & Estates' £25 million hotel and office development in Brighton.

It appears that Sheraton was willing to operate the hotel but not to put any money into the venture despite a £300,000 grant from the English Tourist Board. In the event, Sheraton decided not to go ahead in developing a five-star hotel and Ramada is due to step in this week.

At the time of the announcement that Sheraton was to be the hotel operator, Postel Investment Management, the Post Office pension fund, said it was willing to fund most of the £16 million hotel development. Details of the new agreement with Ramada may become clearer once the deal is signed on Thursday.

The Brighton hotel will be the first five-star hotel to be built in an English coastal resort.

Turiff in £625,000 deal

Turiff Corporation, in a further diversification move away from construction, is buying 49 per cent of the engineering services company Engineering Support Services.

It is paying £625,000 cash and has an option to purchase

the remaining 51 per cent in three years' time at a price related to profits. Engineering Support Services provides translation, writing, illustrating and printing services for industry and government departments.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

FT 100	956.7 (+14.7)
FT All Share	590.93 (+5.47)
FT Govt Securities	80.82 (-0.31)
FT-SE 100	1229.0 (+14.4)
Barrings	24.288
Dataprogram USM	103.82 (+0.18)
New York	
Dow Jones	1192.03 (+7.07)
Tokyo	
Nikkei Dow	11575.52 (+30.36)
Hong Kong	
Hang Seng	1281.87 (+19.57)
Amsterdam	187.5 (+0.4)
Sidney AO	715.20 (-8.20)
Frankfurt	
Commerzbank	1123.5 (+10.8)
Bunzl	
Generale	159.01 (-1.52)
Paribas	162.8 (+1.5)
Zurich	
SKA General	327.50 (+4.20)

GOLD

London fixing	am \$296.75pm \$298.25
close	\$296.25-\$296.55
250.50	
New York	Comex \$296.55

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
Noble & Lund	14½ +2½
Arrow Chemicals	73 +11
Adam Leisure Gp	15 +2
Andre de Brest	18 +2
Naspaed	12½ +1½
Howard Machinery	8½ +1
Johnson Mathew	70 +7
Fobel International	42 +4
B Elliott	58 +5
Rotaprint	They
Rockware Gp	37 +3
PSR International	160 +12
Welpac	13½ +1
Bio-Isolates	43 +3
Ass Brit Eng	15 +1
Biomechanics Int	16 +1
Vitamin Gp	155 +12
Wordplex	185 +10

FALLS:

Reardon Smith "A"	9 -1
Cifer	18 -2
Applied Botanic	4½ -½
Foster Bros	102 -10
Immediate Bus Sys	28 -2
York Trailers	28 -2
Adm Computer	57 -9

CURRENCIES

London:	
\$: \$1.1445 (-0.0093)	
DM: DM 3.6375 (-0.0144)	
Sfr: Sfr 3.0315 (+0.0019)	
FF: FF 11.1275 (-0.0474)	
Yen: Yen 293.10 (-0.56)	
£ Index:	72.6 (-0.3)
New York:	
\$: \$1.1435	
DM: DM 3.1755	
£ Index:	146.3 (+0.7)

INTEREST RATES

London:	
Bank Base:	9½-9¾
3-month interbank:	10½-10¾
3-month eligible bills:	10-9¾
buying rate	
US:	
Prime Rate:	10.75%
Federal Funds:	8¼%
3-month Treasury:	7.75%
Long bond 101¼% (101½%):	yield

The Wellcome Foundation Limited

Extracts from the review by the Chairman, Mr A. J. Sheppard, for the year ended 25th August 1984.

Group results - Group turnover increased by 20% to \$806m, compared with \$674m for the previous year. Nearly 90% of the turnover was outside the UK. Group profit before taxation on a historic cost basis was \$89.5m compared with \$61.2m, an advance of 46%. The main improvement in the group's overall profit arose from a substantial increase in the results of our subsidiary in the USA where the introduction of new products contributed significantly.

Finance - The group's finances continue in a strong position. At the year end, net borrowings amounted to 22% of shareholders' funds, which is unchanged from last year.

Capital expenditure - During the year our capital expenditure programme totalled \$58m. Expenditure in the USA amounted to \$28m, of which \$10m was for buildings which have been acquired near our existing office and research facilities at Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. Capital expenditure in the UK amounted to \$21m. A notable part of this was for the new pharmaceutical development laboratory at Dartford, now nearing completion.

Animal health - We reached agreement during the year with ICI PLC to merge our respective worldwide animal health operations. The new business, which came into being in October 1984 and is known as Coopers Animal Health, will constitute a major force and a strongly competitive element in the world animal health market.

Operations - the launching of Zovirax has continued in world markets during the year, thus continuing the recognition of this product as a major contribution to the treatment of herpes infections. The first launch of our new muscle relaxant, Tracrium, was made in December 1983 in the UK and was followed this year by its launch in the USA. Its reception by anaesthesiologists has been most encouraging and it has quickly become a market leader. The other major new product introduced this year in the USA was "Wellcovin" tablets, the first oral form calcium leuconer antidote to the toxic effects of certain cancer therapies.

Summary of the financial statements	1984	1983
Turnover	806	674
Exports from the UK	150	128
Research and development expenditure	97	81
Profit before taxation	89	61
Taxation	41	23
Distributions to shareholders	17	14
Profit retained in the business	29	24
Capital expenditure	58	38
Shareholders' funds	420	367
Employees	18,608	18,645

Note: The results shown above are an abridged version of the audited financial statements which contain an unaudited audit report. They have not yet been delivered to the registrar of companies.

Research and development - Our total expenditure on research and development amounted to \$97m representing 12% of group turnover for the year.

The Wellcome Foundation Limited is an international group of pharmaceutical and chemical companies with headquarters in the United Kingdom. Under the will of Sir Henry Wellcome, all distributions received by the Wellcome Trust, which is the sole shareholder, are applied to the support of medical and veterinary research in universities and hospitals throughout the world.



The Wellcome Building, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BP. Tel: 01-387 4477

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Shares surge to record high as interest rate worries ease

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

Interest rate worries were shrugged aside yesterday as shares surged impressively to yet another new peak. The stock market look heart from the weekend indication that the cost of borrowing will not be increased sharply to defend sterling and equities pushed ahead over a wide front.

With miners continuing to drift back to work, more signs of American investment interest and another intensive bout of takeover speculation, the FT 30 share index jumped 14.7 points to 955.7 points, its previous record was achieved on New Year's Eve.

But the more broadly based FT-SE share index was not quite so buoyant. It finished with a 14.4 point gain at 1,229.0 points, just 3.2 points from its record high.

Government stocks once again missed the party. Concern about today's money supply figures and another dismal performance by sterling on the foreign exchange market left them nursing losses of approaching 1%.

British Telecom led the FT 30 index constituents, plunging 2.5p to 108.5p, a new high Imperial Chemical Industries, Hanson Trust and Vickers (where jobbers were particularly

Disillers Co., the spirits group, was another to fail to join the upsurge. Its shares edged ahead just 1p to 291p although the company's top men lunched at Grenfell and Colegrave, the stockbroker.

European Ferries, which on Friday announced the acquisition of the P and O cross channel ferries business for £12.5 million, advanced 3p to 132p as a time of seven million shares went through the market at about 131p each.

Imperial Group, the brewing to tobacco group, surged 11p to

reckoned to be in a strong position to win these orders.

GKN is not revealing any figures on the value of such contracts, but the MCV-80 is undoubtedly good news for the engineering group. Apart from sales in this country, the tank is thought to have good sales potential in Europe and elsewhere.

For that reason, various American defence contractors are said to be looking enviously at GKN. Early morning buying in the shares

BAT held to its policy of not commenting on market rumours.

However, Mr Patrick Sheehy said at the time of the HLA bid, that the takeover completed his group's main move into the financial sector in Britain for the time being.

He said that the HLA deal would take some time to digest and that he expected the group's next major acquisition to be overseas.

Recently rumours swirled around that British Petroleum contemplated a bid for Midland.

Later BP disclosed that it had set up its own in-house bank.

Other banking shares moved forward more sedately. Insurance was mixed.

Oil, as the crude price wrangle continues, were in much better shape. BP, British Enterprise, Lascamo and Shell were all firm.

Among contractors and builders William Lacey shares were suspended at 138p, at the request of the company, pending an announcement. Market men confidently expected to hear of a renewal of the bid from C H Beazer, but this time with the agreement of the Lacey board.

Beazer offered 145p a share

Arrow Chemicals flew 11p higher to 73p yesterday as market speculation kept jobbers busy. Buyers of the shares expect a bid for the specialty chemicals outfit soon, with ICI a favourite to make an offer. ICI has long been picking up small specialist companies and this one would not cost much: at the present price Arrow is capitalized at just under £5.5 million.

Trusthouse Forte, ahead of year's figures next week, jumped another 5p to 153p and Ladbroke Group, in the process of absorbing Comfort Hotels International, gained 3p to 260p. Phillips and Drew, the stockbroker, remains keen on the shares.

Courtaulds responded to takeover talk, advancing 7p to 132p and Midland Bank surged 15p to 252p on suggestions that its Crocker International debacle has left the group exposed to a takeover bid.

Suggested bidder was BAT Industries, currently buying Hambro Life Assurance for some £660 million. But a Midland spokesman commented: There is no evidence of an approach on our way.

For Leech last summer, but lost out narrowly when it gained control and acceptances for a total of just 46.4 per cent of Leech, a house builder based in the North-east.

While Beazer would normally have to wait until the end of July to renew its attack - under Takeover Panel rules - the aggressively acquisitive group can return to the fray if Leech agrees or if a rival bid were in the offing.

Shares in Tootal eased 4p to 59p on the news that Australian textile group Entrad had sold a further 350,000 shares

short of stock) were among others to advance.

Thorn EML, the electronics to showbusiness group, was one chip to stay out in the cold. It held at 459p as analysts pondered over the interim results due on Thursday. The forecast range spreads from as low as £35 million to £47 million. Last time it achieved £55.8 million. Despite the expected interim slump, Thorn is still expected to come out over the full year with a profit advance, about £167 million against £156.8 million in the

guess.

NG RATES

3 months 9.50%
6 months 9.75%
12 months 10.00%
15 years 10.25%
20 years 10.50%
30 years 10.75%
40 years 11.00%
50 years 11.25%
60 years 11.50%
70 years 11.75%
80 years 12.00%
90 years 12.25%
100 years 12.50%

INTERNATIONAL

20 Jan 1985
Federal Reserve
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prime rate 11.00%
10 year T-bill 8.50%
30 year T-bill 9.50%
10 year UK gilt 10.00%
30 year UK gilt 11.00%
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10 year US corporate 10.50%
30 year US corporate 11.50%

Growth pays at Ellis & Everard

Ellis & Everard, the chemical distributor, capitalized at £30 million, is doing everything that a large group ought to, backed presumably by ICI, with its 28 per cent stake. The group has pushed into the US via two large acquisitions, American Industrial Chemicals and Prillman, costing £7 million. It had raised £4 million of fresh equity capital.

The interim results justify the group's ambitious approach, and the shares rose 12p to 232p, completing a substantial market outperformance over the past year. Sales have risen by 41 per cent to £38.2 million, and pretax profits are up by 61 per cent to £1.9 million. The earnings gain is rather less impressive, sporting a growth rate of just 23 per cent, after adjusting for the January 1984 rights issue.

Ellis does not provide a divisional breakdown, but it sounds as if the important British merchanting side performed well.

The group is making no forecasts about the second half, beyond suggesting that the going may become tougher.

October, however, was strong, and November good. Doubling up the first half contribution, and then adjusting for shipping gives a full-year outcome of £3.6 million. At this level, the target p/e is about 15.

The US contribution should help in the second half, American Industrial turned in a record performance, and profit translations boosted the profit and loss account by about £50,000. Ellis plans further acquisitions.

The shares nevertheless look fully valued at current ratings. Holders should contemplate

taking the profits on part of their stake. Costs, which are far more fixed than sales, are rising quite swiftly, and the group is highly borrowed in the US. Even so, the interim payout has risen in cash terms by 51 per cent, perhaps reflecting the presence of a large shareholder.

Ladbroke

Mr Cyril Stein, chairman of Ladbroke, has had far too much experience of being odds and the habit of red hot favourites not winning to say that his company's bid for Comfort Hotels International is bound to succeed. The odds are certainly in his favour. The closure for acceptance is Friday and the bid has won the approval of the Comfort board.

If the bid is accepted, it will conclude a programme undertaken by Ladbroke to extend its three main core businesses. The property division has already seen expansion in the US, the betting division has benefited from a big acquisition in Belgium which left the hotel activities lagging behind.

The Comfort acquisition would solve this problem. More importantly, it would give Ladbroke a ready-made foothold in the lucrative London hotel business. While the group has more than 30 hotels in Britain, only two are in London and not exactly in prime locations. The boom year which London hoteliers saw in 1984 has not exactly eluded Ladbroke but it could have been better placed to take advantage of the position.

Comfort's nine London hotels would be a great bonus, on the assumption that the

boom days have some time to run, and there is also the added attraction of its European properties.

The price that Ladbroke is prepared to pay for these advantages is not cheap. The £5p cash equivalent per Comfort share is probably in excess of the net asset value. However, the complexity of the property portfolio makes any valuation difficult. At the same time the price is not ridiculously expensive.

In the next two years the hotels divisions should be contributing roughly one third of profit on a par with property and betting, an indication of the growth which the group can expect.

Strategically then, the move is sound. It should ensure that Ladbroke moves smoothly ahead on its growth pattern and will ultimately contribute to the funds flow which will allow the group to add on a fourth core division and the earnings growth should soon compensate for the dilution which will be felt immediately after the acquisition.

McCorquodale

One of the great inconsistencies which has dogged company finance directors is the discrepancy between their internal management accounting information and that which is disclosed in published annual reports. While a company may make its business decisions on the basis of its own management accounts those figures have often been translated into meaningless irrelevancies to comply with financial reporting requirements.

It is some comfort to find that the Accounting Standards Committee appears to have taken a step in bridging the divide, at least with its foreign currency standard, SSAP 20. The breakthrough is highlighted in McCorquodale's accounts, published yesterday.

Under the old rules, McCorquodale had recorded investments in overseas subsidiaries at the historical sterling equivalent of the foreign currency cost. However, these investments were often financed by loans taken out in Britain in the relevant foreign currency.

These loans were subsequently translated at ruling year-end exchange rates while the assets which they were linked to were recorded at a constant value. The discrepancy between the treatment of assets and underlying liabilities therefore made appraisal difficult.

However, the introduction of SSAP20, which affects McCorquodale for the first time in these accounts, has allowed the company to take a much more relevant approach. The historical sterling cost of overseas assets can now be translated into the equivalent historical foreign currency cost and this figure then retranslated into sterling at the effective year-end rate.

The magnitude of the discrepancy which had been allowed to creep into McCorquodale's accounting is demonstrated by the adjustment made for the previous year in implementing the change in treatment. It is almost as much as the cost or valuation figure at September 30 1983 which implies a distortion of nearly 100 per cent.

Carclo lifts dividend after 27% profit rise

By Allison Eadie

Carclo Engineering increased pretax profits in the six months to September 30, 1984 by 27.7 per cent to £1.4 million on turnover 13.3 per cent higher at £17.6 million.

The interim dividend was increased by 24.6 per cent to 3.5p, but a similar increase is not expected at the final stage.

The company said a final dividend of not less than 6p would be recommended, implying a total increase of 10.3 per cent.

Carclo reported that its order book remained at a high level and that most of its customers continued to enjoy good trading conditions.

Profits declined again in India, where the textile industry has been hit by the high price of cotton. Political unrest has also been bad for business, but the company is encouraged by the landslide victory of Mr Rajiv Gandhi, which it sees as being good for business.

Profits rose in both Britain and Europe with the increase evenly spread between wire products, the largest part of the engineering division, and card clothing.

The shares rose 2p to 172p, a record for the last year. Carclo is still looking for acquisitions, but has nothing in its sights at the moment.

CARCLO INTERIM RESULTS

	1984	1983	1982
Turnover £'000	17,600	15,770	14,314
Profit before tax £'000	1,398	1,083	898
Earnings per ordinary share of 25p	14.5p	10.9p	8.1p
Dividend per ordinary share of 25p	3.5p	2.8p	2.6p
Dividend cover (times)	4.1	4.2	3.8
Shareholders funds per ordinary share of 25p	184p	182p	188p

- Turnover up by 13%
- Profit before tax up by 28%
- Earnings per ordinary share up by 34%
- Order book remains at a high level
- Most of our customers continue to enjoy good trading conditions

CARCLO ENGINEERING GROUP PLC

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The Application Lists for the Ordinary Shares now offered for sale will open at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 8th January, 1985 and will close at 3 p.m. on Friday, 18th January, 1985.

Associated Furniture Holdings PLC is involved in the design and manufacture of office screens and furniture suitable for use in contemporary office environments.

No application has been made for the Company's shares to be admitted to the Official List of the Stock Exchange or to the Unlisted Securities Market. Harvard Securities Limited has agreed to make a market in the Ordinary Shares of the Company. Application forms and copies of the Prospectus dated 31st December 1984 upon the terms of which these shares can be made can be obtained from:

Harvard Securities Limited
Harvard House
42-44 Dolben Street
London SE1 0UG
01-928 2661

BP wants more drilling in China

By John Lawless

British Petroleum has told China that it is interested in bidding for more offshore oil and gas licences, in spite of its failure to find commercially exploitable reserves in its 14-month exploration programme in the South China Sea.

The Chinese Government appears to have revived interest among international oil companies by splitting the second round of bidding, shortly to take place, into two parts.

The first area to be offered will be in the Yellow Sea basin, where Atlantic Richfield made a gas discovery in 1983, which is to become China's first offshore development.

Mr Basil Butler, managing director of BP Exploration, said yesterday: "The Chinese have invited companies to express an interest and a fair number have responded, including ourselves."

He said that he understood that the Chinese had made their own explorations in the area and would shortly be publishing the seismic data, when formally inviting bids.

The rest of the second-round areas have yet to be announced by the China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC), but is likely to cover 100,000 sq km, larger than the first round, in the Pearl River Basin in the South China Sea and the southern and northern parts of the Yellow Sea.

BP has drilled seven times in the South China Sea and once in the latter area. Mr Butler said. The fact that they have, like those sunk by all other companies, proved to be commercially "dry" has created widespread gloom about the prospects - after the euphoria that the China offshore reserves would produce the most significant discoveries in years.

BP remains "optimistic" that offshore Chinese fields will produce exploitable finds. Mr Butler said that although his company has two rigs operating there at the moment and the programme is taking 5 per cent of BP's exploratory budget, "it is like prodding a huge football field with a pin". The North Sea, a much smaller area, had required 44 drillers before

THE WELLCOME FOUNDATION

£5,520,000 6% BONDS 1987

The annual report and accounts of the Wellcome Foundation Limited for the financial year ended 25th August 1984 will be available for inspection at the offices of Messrs. Slaughter and May, 25 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF, during the usual business hours on any weekday (Saturday excepted) until 9th February 1985.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9 1/2%
Admiral & Company	9 1/2%
Barclays	9 1/2%
BCCI	9 1/2%
Citibank Savings	10 1/2%
Consolidated Crds	9 1/2%
Continental Trust	9 1/2%
C. Hoare & Co	9 1/2%
Lloyds Bank	9 1/2%
Midland Bank	9 1/2%
Nat Westminster	9 1/2%
TSB	9 1/2%
Williams & Glyn's	9 1/2%
Citibank NA	9 1/2%

* 7 day deposit on sums of under £10,000, 6 1/2%; £10,000 up to £50,000, 7 1/2%; £50,000 and over, 8%.



Cut your regular repayments down to size with a single simple loan.

Many of our customers have found that paying a number of separate monthly repayments costs them dearly because some items carry higher interest charges than others and some have repayment periods too short for comfort.

CHARTERLOAN REPAYMENTS Before tax relief:

Loan	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
1,000	17	13	10
2,000	33	26	20
3,000	50	39	30
4,000	67	52	40
5,000	84	65	50
6,000	101	78	60
7,000	118	91	70
8,000	135	104	80
9,000	152	117	90
10,000	169	130	100

APR 20.9%*

Whereas, as a homeowner, you could probably cover all your regular monthly commitments - H.P., short term loans, even Credit Card and Budget accounts - with one, much lower monthly repayment. With a Charterloan Secured Personal Loan from Chartered Trust, part of Standard Chartered Bank, which is Britain's largest independent international bank, with assets exceeding £28 billion.

Remember, your special status as a homeowner means we are able to charge substantially less

than for an unsecured loan (current A.P.R. 26.8%). You may wish to use your Charterloan for another reason. A new kitchen? Holiday of a lifetime? Major household purchase? Changing the car? Central heating? You name it! With 3 - 10 years to repay £600 - £15,000 (depending on the purpose of the loan), monthly repayments can be so much more manageable, as the table shows. Tax relief can cut your monthly repayments even further if the whole loan is used for home improvements.

There's no penalty for early settlement, which reduces the total you pay. No legal fees or hidden extras. No one will call, unless invited. No employee contact without your consent. With more than 70 Personal Finance Centres nationwide there is always someone to talk to if you wish. For details simply phone our 24-hour hotline on 0222 480622.

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There's Free Life Cover for the amount you owe. There's also optional protection against accident, sickness and unemployment (including Redundancy) - on the average loan the cost is less than 6p per week per £100 borrowed! A small price to pay for so much peace of mind. For full details just fill in the simple application below. There's NO OBLIGATION - you can always return the cheque POST TODAY!

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Amount of Loan required £ _____ Repayment Term _____ years

Surname _____ Tel. No. _____

Forename(s) _____ Date of Birth _____

Spouse's Forename(s) _____ Date of Birth _____

Married/Separated/Divorced _____ (Delete as appropriate)

Present address _____ Post Code _____

Time at this address _____ years _____ months

Previous address (if at present address less than 3 years) _____

Exact Occupation _____

Employer's Name _____

Address _____

Time with this employer _____ years _____ months

Spouse's Exact Occupation _____

Property Owned/Leased/Estimated Value £ _____

Date purchased _____ Price paid £ _____

Monthly income gross Self £ _____ Spouse £ _____

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Signature of Lender _____

1st Mortgage £ _____

2nd Mortgage £ _____

HP/Bank £ _____

Liases £ _____

Other Credit £ _____

Purpose for which loan is required _____

If you do NOT require optional insurance protection back here ☐ M.B. Life Insurance free up to state retirement age.

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Draft VAT law is too hard on honest traders

By Ernest Hoskin

Taxpayers' rights will be eroded if new proposals are enacted

The proposals of the Commissioners of Customs and Excise for implementing the VAT recommendations of the Keith Committee, and the draft clauses intended for inclusion in this year's Finance Bill were published in mid-November. Comment was called for by early this month, an unseemly haste in view of their severity and impact on honest taxpayers.

The draft legislation extends to about 31 pages and 22 clauses and two schedules. Surprisingly though, few taxpayers are aware of the harshness of the enforcement provisions. One magazine dealing with taxation matters has called them a "national disgrace".

The proposals, bearing the

Chancellor's endorsement, have an intention to impose default interest, penalties and surcharges, on taxpayers who do not satisfy the commissioners' regulations. The incidence of the impositions rests almost entirely within Customs and Excise discretion.

There is no power, in respect of the offence of "serious misdeclaration", for a VAT tribunal to exercise any jurisdiction relating to mitigation of penalty. Otherwise adjudication will be determined on the burden of proof applicable to civil proceedings - the balance of probabilities - unlike criminal proceedings where dishonesty must be proved beyond reasonable doubt.

There can be no sympathy for fraudulent operators. But the great majority of VAT traders are not dishonest and many will find that they, too, will be clobbered if the proposals are enacted. Serious objection must be taken to the exercise of such

unilateral power by Customs and Excise.

The proposals erode the right of appeal against a penalty by the commissioners on a taxpayer who has acted in good faith but erroneously, who has been inadvertently misled, or who has found the complexity of VAT too difficult to comprehend. He cannot plead mitigation to a VAT tribunal: the commissioners' discretion is absolute.

As the draft law stands, independent VAT tribunals will have no jurisdiction to reduce or discharge any penalty imposed by the commissioners for serious misdeclaration.

The fabric of tribunal law, in the United Kingdom, was fashioned in the Report of the Committee on Administrative Tribunals and Enquiries (the Franks Report). The committee's terms of reference involved the consideration of the relationship between the individual and authority.

At different times, it has been necessary to adjust the relationship and to seek a new balance

between private right and public advantage, between fair play for the individual and the efficiency of administration.

At no time has it been more important than now to provide the right for the individual to contest the decisions of the establishment. It is inherent in the laws of the European Economic Community.

It can be no coincidence that the Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham, appears to be extending his surveillance and authority more closely over tribunals. He clearly recognizes the importance of strengthening this wider branch of appeal against decisions of those responsible for the imposition of administrative law and the importance of the canons of openness and impartiality.

The growth in the use of VAT tribunals reflects their value to the taxpayer. They protect the rights of the citizen; among them, the right not to be the victim of arbitrary conduct by those with whom one deals, whether fellow citizens or public authorities.

A system founded on these principles requires that those who administer the law should have their limitations imposed by law; those who are administered have rights in law which must be protected.

The draft clauses should be judged in the light of these observations. In no way do they even remotely stand examination. They are minatory, disciplinary and coercive; they leave no latitude to the honest but confused taxpayer.

A VAT tribunal has no power to release him from the arbitrary imposition of default interest and penalties fixed by the commissioners. Only if his entire appeal succeeds will the taxpayer be relieved of the added burden.

Most taxpayers are intrinsically honest. Unfortunately many have no clear understanding of the complexities of VAT. Many people have been encouraged by the Prime Minister to set up in business. They try to cope but where can they find time to study VAT law and the

administrative regulations issued by Customs and Excise? They have no funds to spare for accountants.

It is the small trader who is most often assessed for some dereliction of his VAT commitment: it is he who, under the Finance Bill clauses, will also be saddled with penalties and interest charges.

Criticism must be directed against the excessive powers which the commissioners are intending to assume and against which there is no appeal. It is neither right nor proper for a great department of state to be both prosecutor and judge.

In the service of justice the use of the commissioners' discretion to impose penalties should be subject to examination by the independent VAT tribunal whose jurisdiction should be extended.

The author, who helped to construct the value-added tax system, was Registrar, VAT Tribunals for the United Kingdom until 1983. He now writes regularly on the subject of VAT.

COMMODITY MARKETS

London must fight to maintain its status

I wonder what new year's resolutions the London commodity markets have made. To better the Government for tax changes? To support until death may part them the Association of Futures Brokers and Dealers? To promote London as a commodity trading centre? Or even to try harder?

Any one of these would be commendable. All are necessary. For this promises to be an important year for London as a commodity centre. Bear markets, tough overseas competition, and sharply lower profitability have forced many brokers and traders to look long and hard at their business. And the emergent collective feeling is that London is faced with a hard fight to maintain its status in the commodity world.

A propaganda paper from the British Federation of Commodity Associations makes the point succinctly. Over the last five years volume on the London Metal Exchange has grown by an average of 15.1 per cent a year, while on Comex in New York it has advanced by almost 49 per cent annually.

Over the same period grains on the Chicago Board of Trade advanced by 16.5 per cent annually, but on the London Commodity Exchange could manage only 12.2 per cent. Significantly - not least because of the much vaunted advantage to London of being in the "middle" of time zones - the Hong Kong and Kuala Lumpur markets together showed an extraordinary 243 per cent average yearly rise.

The message is clear. However important London may be absolutely, it is losing ground to the competition relatively. There are, of course, variations between individual commodity markets and London may retain a comparative advantage, for example in aluminium. But the trend cannot be allowed to continue indefinitely.

This much has become increasingly evident to London's commodity community over the past two years or so. So far, however, efforts to stem the tide have been piecemeal and have sometimes owed much to rank outsiders such as Her Majesty's Government.

To be fair, London's markets have taken the initiative in seeking tax changes. Their argument has been that prima

facie it is unreasonable for gains on commodity futures and options transactions to be treated as income when the equivalent equity transaction is regarded for tax purposes as capital and is accordingly liable to tax at a lower rate. Commodity investors suffer from the added disadvantage that losses on futures deals cannot automatically be offset against gains.

This point has been pressed strongly in recent months, and tax changes are an unspoken *quid pro quo* for the industry forming itself into a self-regulating agency in the guise of the AFBF. But I fear it confuses two issues. Equity is one thing, encouraging extra investment in the markets, and therefore expanding liquidity, is another.

What deters British private investors from using London commodity markets is not tax treatment but the poor reputations of those markets for being a secure investment and the absence of suitable vehicles. To some extent, existing legislation exacerbates the situation by forcing commodity funds offshore.

London certainly does need much more liquidity and it is true that custom is being lost because some overseas markets enjoy greater depth - for example, Chicago as opposed to the London International Financial Futures Exchange. But potential foreign users of London are unlikely to be impressed by fiscal changes here.

The essential ingredient is a regulatory environment which gives direction to the markets and simultaneously imparts confidence to the users. The AFBF should be seen not merely as a tiresome necessity, accepted for fear of something worse like a Securities and Exchange Commission, but as a catalyst for bringing London's disparate and jealous markets together.

London's new year resolution should be to promote unity and to promote itself. The City's historical advantages as a commodity centre are insufficient in themselves. The Government can help to provide the framework; but only the commodity exchanges can provide the voice.

Michael Prest

Pitt's balancing was an act for Lawson to envy

Perhaps we should be celebrating an even greater bicentenary. For 1785 has an arguable claim to have been the year of birth of Britain's industrial revolution. While it was not a year of key scientific invention, it was - more importantly - a critical year for the industrial application of science. In a Nottingham cotton mill in 1785, the first steam engine with rotary motion was installed.

It was steam power, beyond all else thrown up by the ferment of late-eighteenth-century scientific activity, that changed the face of Britain. Before this centralizing force, industrial innovation had served to increase the output of workers in their own homes, villages and towns: it was the application of steam power that drew them into factories and created the new cities of the Midlands and North. In the words of the Oxford history of the time, it was steam power that expanded industry so as "to produce a new class of self-confident industrial masters, and so to disturb the tranquillity of men's ideas".

The change was not, of course, instantaneous. Even in the cotton industry, handloom weavers outnumbered factory workers as late as 1830. It took war with Napoleon to jerk the industrial revolution into full production and stimulate the

infant iron and steel industries.

In 1785 English society (all eight million members of it, including the Welsh) was still predominantly rural, with wealth rooted in land. The "merchants and bankers of the City of London", the group label under which their elite still forage after once a year, was already established on the back of Britain's trading power. But with notable exceptions (such as Sir Richard Arkwright, the cotton innovator who died a half-millionaire in 1793), Britain's affluent industrial middle class was a thing of the future.

Yet most of the seeds of change were already germinating in 1785. The spinning jenny was 20 years old. The canal system was widening domestic markets, capital was plentiful. Perhaps the most significant signpost was the shortage of labour and rising wage costs in the North of England, stimulating innovation. Patents were being taken out at an ever increasing rate.

Agriculture, too, was developing: small farms were disappearing, large ones expanding, despite a pause in the rate of enclosure; the threshing machine was introduced in the 1790s. Almost every economic indicator was pointing up in the late 1780s, and social indicators too: by the end of the decade the death rate was dropping, and

THE TIMES 1785-1985

Britain's population grew by more than a million in each of the next two decades.

Philosophically, the ground was well prepared. Jeremy Bentham set the logical framework of utilitarianism in 1780. Four years earlier, Adam Smith had dug the grave of mercantilism in *The Wealth of Nations*.

Though he had greatest influence on the succeeding generation, Adam Smith's advocacy of free trade found its practical expression in many of Pitt's reforms. In 1784 the tea duty was quartered, from 112 per cent to 25 per cent, dealing a heavy blow to the smuggling trade.

More significant, perhaps, was Pitt's commercial treaty with France: Adam Smith, descending from theory, had argued practically that France would prove a better market than the lost Americas if duties could be mutually lowered. It did, after all, contain eight times as many people as the newly-independent United States.

Even before the treaty took effect, Britain's trade was expanding fast. Cotton exports,

worth only about £300,000 in 1780, topped £800,000 in our year of 1785 - and passed the million pound mark two years later. Exports of coal, iron and steel and metal manufacturers all rose in the late 1780s.

At home, Pitt was caught between two of Adam Smith's dictums. The founder of political economy acknowledged defence to be more important than opulence; and defence costs periodically ruined Pitt's attempts to run a Budget surplus of at least one million pounds a year. Thus Adam Smith's famous plan against state intervention, that "it is the highest impertinence to pretend to watch over the economy of private persons," could not compete with the need for revenue. Like Mrs Thatcher two centuries later, Pitt cut his borrowing requirement largely by raising tax.

Like the present Government, Pitt found the control of expenditure slow going. Redundancies cost money, then as now: in 1785 Pitt disposed of those gentlemen enjoying the

secure positions of "auditors of the impost," but had to pay them £7,000 a year each for life in compensation. Yet he struggled on with civil service reform: 1785 also saw the reorganization of tax collection. The year before, the civil list had been put on a more businesslike basis; two years after, customs duties were brought together into our old friend, the consolidated fund.

Unlike today's Chancellor, Pitt was busily engaged in raising direct taxes while cutting duties on expenditure. In 1785 the introduction of a forerunner of the selective employment tax was introduced: levied on the employment of personal servants, and at a higher rate for bachelors than for married couples.

Other fancy taxes, usually levied directly from individuals, covered horses used for carriage work, pensions, pedlars and maid-servants - besides, of course, the famous increases in window tax. Many of them proved inefficient - expensive to administer and easy to evade. But in 1784 Pitt tapped the national passion for gambling by introducing a national lottery, which provided him with costless liquidity before the prizes had to be paid out.

Even so, in 1785 Pitt failed to balance his books, running a deficit of about £24 million.

The first detailed statistics of national income are no earlier than 1801, when it amounted to £333 million. In 1785, Pitt's borrowing requirement perhaps equalled 2 per cent of GNP. But his total income was only £15½ million, of which debt charges gobbled up over £9 million; struggling back to surplus by 1786 was an achievement Mr Nigel Lawson may well envy.

How do these figures compare with today's? The Napoleonic war brought inflation (as well as a hole in the public finances and income tax); but looking across long sweep of history, it seems that prices were actually slightly lower on the eve of the First World War than they were in 1785. Long-run inflation measures are, of course, highly questionable: the goods bought in 1913 differed radically from those bought and sold in 1785.

Nor does this long-term equivalence translate into stability from year to year: the price of wheat, measured in imperial quarters, dropped from 54s 3d in 1783 to 43s 1d in 1785, bobbing up again in the late 1780s. In 1913 it was 31s 8d. Not until after the First World War did the price collapse (30s 10d by 1923); but by then, of course, we were into a very different economic era.

Sarah Hogg



WE BELIEVE MEMORY DEVICES EXPAND THE POTENTIALS OF THE HUMAN MIND

HITACHI

Since the first electronic brain began "thinking" almost four decades ago, Hitachi has been steadily advancing the art of machine memories. From paper tape and punch cards. To magnetic tape and memory drums. To semiconductor and the very latest optical technologies for high-density information storage.

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Today, the results of Hitachi research are in use all around you. Floppy disks that can hold hundreds of pages' worth of text for ready reference via business or personal computers. Magnetic "bubble memories" which allow industrial robots to memorize dozens of job routines. Semiconductor memory devices for data processing, satellite communications systems, office automation equipment, and even home audio/video components.

Our engineers are using micro-electronic skills to allow much more information to be packed into smaller and smaller units. They have found ways to etch micron-wide circuits on 1/2 cm² silicon chips to accommodate over one million bits of data. They have refined the magnetic storage properties of Hitachi hard disks to almost flawless levels.

In fact, we are constantly coming up with innovations and new applications. Quite recently: A mirror-like optical disk no

larger than an LP record, which permits laser inscription of pictures and sounds as well as computer-encoded text and numbers for laser scanning of any bit of information in just a quarter of a second.

These examples demonstrate a few of the ways in which Hitachi is improving upon basic technology. Then using it to create practical tools that meet your needs... and those of professionals in banking, education, research, and virtually every other field you can name.

The best of worlds is yet to come

Our vision of the future includes whole libraries of information carried in memory packets even smaller than a standard textbook. Visual memory banks that allow designers to create new works of art from stored images. Automotive microcomputers that recall routes, driving conditions and destination data. And much, much more.

We'd like you to share in the benefits of our scientific research, covering the next generation of microchips, sensors and other electronic devices. For improved business efficiency. For a higher quality of life. Two goals we've pursued for 74 years as part of our commitment to a better world through electronics.

Russian openings for Western technology

Apricot ready to go on sale in Moscow

By Paul Walton

Thanks to pressure by British doves, the Russians should be able to buy microcomputers this year - a point conceded by the American banks when the last embargoed technology was driven up by CoCom, the Coordinating Committee, in Paris last November. Days later a trio of British machines was on show at the first foreign computer fair in Moscow for four years. Everyone involved reported that the potential in this market is "massive".

A sales drive by Applied Computer Technology (ACT) has begun in the Soviet Union. Soviet specialists Quest Automation has exclusive rights to sell the Apricot in the Eastern Bloc - but already its distributor has run into a few problems with the US Export Administration, which will allow only a limited exhibit, but not yet to sell the Apricot.

Quest has been told that it will take six months for the relaxation of CoCom rules to be applied, by which time it, and ACT, fear that US suppliers will be back snapping at their heels in Russia. IBM keeps a Moscow office, for instance, which sells little 16M PC. Wang and MDS were also the show both selling IBM compatible micros elsewhere in the world, but did not move fast enough to exhibit.

The BBC microcomputer was also being shown at the Systematronics show to representatives of the Soviet education ministry, by distributor 321, while Sinclair's new East European marketing manager, Jan Tishka, was said to be beating Spectrum. Pluses - although not the QL - to representatives of the primary schools and, surprisingly, to the developers of computer games.

An official of the commercial section of the US Embassy in London explained that the Apricot, with a fast 4MHz Intel 8086 processor, 256K RAM, a single 300K byte floppy and Firefly 10 Mbytes Winchester disc drive "are all denied to the Soviets this time". The official added: "We wouldn't give out a licence for the export of Apricot's just yet."

Richard Perle, the Assistant Secretary for Defence and architect of the US embargo, asked about the more liberal deal, said: "We tried to draw the distinction between the kind of



Richard Perle drawing a distinction.

things which can be bought in Oxford Street, and the kind of things that have a military slant to them."

The changes in CoCom rules should be agreed in three months, and in force within six months, according to Mr. Gothard. "We've been told that we'll be able to sell in the summer," he said, "subject to waffle in London and arguments with Washington. We detained licence approval to show, but not to sell, the Apricot. Firms show their latest products to the Russians either to whet their appetites for future products, or to demonstrate that they are generally capable of handling state-of-the-art products."

ACT has just entrusted its entire eastern bloc distribution of Apricots to Quest, since it has more experience in dealing with these complex bureaucracies. Another motive is for ACT to distance itself from Russian sales while it is trying, at the same time, to enter the American market.

Quest sees "massive" potential for the sale of Russian office systems, all the more if it can get a head start of the competition. Britain is fortunate in having a large number of Russian-language speakers who might be employed to translate many other popular software packages. Soviet demand for smaller microcomputers is likely to increase in 1985, Mr. Gothard said that the Ministry of Higher Education is about to begin a "micros in colleges" programme next year probably based on the home-produced Apple II copy called AGAT.

Exxon pulls out of office automation

The decision by Exxon, the largest company in the world, to pull out of the office automation market illustrates the notion that money and resources count for very little in the fast moving information technology field.

Exxon, better known as Esso in the UK, has annual sales of almost twice those of IBM. The company began to diversify in the 1960s and by the late 1970s owned several interesting products.

Plans were ambitious; interest in office automation was just beginning and Exxon's subsidiaries were designing many advanced office automation products. Sales did not match the ambitious plans and the first reorganisation took place in 1982. The small, and largely autonomous units, were merged into Exxon office systems. Many of the creative people left and Exxon began to buy-in products.

It also stifled innovation in the company with the result that EQS never developed a personal computer. That appears to have been a fatal mistake. Witness IBM; the PC is central to their office automation strategy.

Easy driving

A special computerized travel service, Computrip, for motorists travelling in North and Central America, has been developed by Thomas Potter, a Calgary businessman.

By using the service, a tourist can feed into the computer information about the size of vehicle being driven, the starting location, destination and whether he wants to go by the shortest or the scenic route.

The motorist receives a computerized printout showing the route in miles and kilometres, including designated highways, route changes and rest areas. The service can also provide a computerized summary of total distance to be travelled, estimated driving times and approximate petrol costs and include locations of hotels, motels, car rental agencies and service stations.

The program operates on IBM or IBM-compatible personal computers, but can be transferred to a mainframe computer or adapted for other systems.

COMPUTER BRIEFING

One man's belief in nuclear disarmament has led him to develop a peace program, based on Christian ethics, for home computer users. It is called Nuclear Deterrent, and is the work of freelance programmer Mike Gascoigne who hopes it will make home computer users consider the moral implications of nations producing and carrying atomic weapons. Using a combination of Graphics and pertinent questions the program leads, via a number of references to Christian ethics, to three positions.

Typical of these questions is the proposition: "Is it acceptable for a nation to intend to use weapons of mass destruction if it attacked, believing that this therefore will not happen?"

50 versions of the program are available on cassette for the Acorn BBC model "B" and the Sinclair Spectrum micro, and also on disc for the BBC machine. They cost £5 and £7 respectively.



How's the response time on this new system?

The program is available from Newcastle-upon-Tyne firm Maginations, tel 091 2737362.

Quiet, please

Line noise, leading to corrupted transmission of data by Telecom Gold users can now be overcome by a new piece of software on the originating micro.

Uniform Rap is an error correcting transfer system which enables chunks of text and binary information to be checked and corrected automatically during transmission. It has been developed by United Information Services and allows users to automate such procedures as dialling, logging on and network routing.

The cost, at present only for IBM PCs, is £198, but US plan to make it available for other machines if asked.

Last of Adam

The decision by Coleco to abandon its Adam home computer adds yet another casualty to a United States industry that is both saturated and fiercely price competitive. When originally announced, the Adam appeared both innovative and well priced but its actual delivery suffered from delays and disappointing sales of less than 100,000 units.

Coleco says it will now sell its stock of computers, though at a loss, and hopes to return to profitability aided by sales of Cabbage Patch dolls which it also manufactures.

Texas Instruments, Mattel and Timex have already withdrawn from the United States home computer market leaving Commodore and Atari as the main contenders. Atari used last year to ex-Commodore chief Jack Trammell by a disappointed Warner Communications.

Need now for a 'hands off' policy

The telecommunication and computer industries and their progress must again be given prominent place in the minds of industrial policy-makers this year as Britain tries to reverse the flow of high-technology imports. Successive governments have attempted with little success to produce policies which will encourage a sluggish electronics sector - still short of innovation and skilled management on a par with the Japanese and Americans - to become competitive on an international scale.

The high-technology trade deficit is now more than £2,000 million a year and rising. Last year's attempts to produce a climate for high-technology innovation proved, with few exceptions, to be disastrous. The blame can be levelled at a government which promised much hoping that high technology would lessen a chronic unemployment problem - but was unable to realize any of the potential. The reason for that failure was largely because of ignorance of the technologies involved and the stimulus they needed. Equally to blame were the industrialists who still do not understand that a company which cannot compete internationally has no place in the high-technology sector and no hope of survival. Abortive policies therefore resulted in cable television, satellite broadcasting, engineering education and telecommunications.

But this year that same international pressure may force even the most reluctant industrialist and government minister to come to grips with the problem. In telecommunications that pressure is growing at a frightening rate.

Despite the years of political rhetoric that predicted the contrary, there is still not enough competition in the British telephone telecommunications sector. There is not enough scope for indigenous and foreign suppliers of equipment to sell their goods against a powerful, and now privately owned, British Telecom. Nor is enough competition licensed to fight British Telecom as a service-provider. The only licensed carrier, Mercury, has

which offers intercontinental communications from spacecraft above the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific oceans to its 100 or so members. US agreement allowing private provision of such services would produce competition in the transatlantic telephone market which would make even the airline price wars tame.

There are many in Britain who believe it will not happen. There were many in the airline industry who said the same 10 years ago. We all know better now.

The international transfer of data, the fundamental platform of computer communications, relies on high-speed telecommunication links. The French will soon have a telecommunications satellite hovering above Europe, also able to provide a transatlantic link. The West Germans and even the Irish are making plans to provide such links over Europe, either for business or DBS (direct broadcasting by satellite) television.

The pressure is increasing. The partners of the British DBS satellite project - the BBC, the ITV companies and a handful of industrialists in the high-technology sector - must this year make a decision on whether to go ahead with their programme for a spacecraft due to be launched in 1986. They are already disillusioned with the cost of using a British Aerospace British Telecom-Marcosini design forced on them by Government. The £600 million satellite has been rejected. This year the consortium wants to put the contract for the spacecraft's design out to international tender in the hope of

cutting costs of the seven-year programme by two-thirds. A favoured alternative could be a design offered by British, a British company whose design is based on a satellite made by the American group RCA. A more enlightened attitude by the British Government this year might allow a further reduction in costs by permitting the satellite to offer telecommunication services to business.

On the ground, the energetic Ofel gives every indication of ensuring that the computer communication business will thrive this year. Last year Ofel thwarted an attempt by IBM and British Telecom to create a computer data-management network. The watchdogs at Ofel advised the Government against approval because it would kill competition. The corollary of that decision will mean that a plethora of licences will be awarded this year to British companies wishing to offer data-management services. Those licences could transform the computer industry in the UK.

However one of the most fundamental questions, which has yet to be considered fully, is education. Last year a committee headed by the junior Industry Minister, John Butcher, produced an imaginative report on the skills shortages in the information technology (IT) sector. Another is due this year and will gather dust, much as the last one did on the shelves of the Whitehall bureaucrats, unless the Department of Education and Science objectively reviews the types and quality of graduates being produced under the present system.

THE WEEK by Bill Johnstone Technology Correspondent

made little impact on the escalating profits of British Telecom.

This year there will be a ray of hope in the form of the newly created Ofel (Office of Telecommunications). This new consumer watchdog will insist on a proper blueprint to ensure fair competition and a code of practice so that British Telecom does not use its position as a network carrier to acquire information giving it unfair advantage in supplying equipment.

International satellite carriers will also exert pressure on the reticent British. President Reagan has agreed in principle to allow privately owned satellite carriers to offer transatlantic telecommunication services. These are normally provided by Inmarsat (the international satellite organization)

David Bellamy to judge the schools competition

Christmas over, schoolchildren can try their hand at The Times Network for Schools competition. Announced on the eve of The Times' 200th birthday celebrations, it is open to all between the ages of 11 and 18.

Judging will be by a panel of four headed by David Bellamy, the champion of conservation, and former lecturer in Botany at Durham University. Other members will be Christopher Curry, managing director of Acorn Computers (sponsors of the competition), Maggie McLeney, the originator of The Times network for schools and Matthew May, editor of The Times Computer Horizons. Lord David Young will present the prizes.

Mr Curry, who has been involved with TINS since its inception, believes that the system will further the use of computers across the curriculum. "I believe The Times Network for Schools could potentially become one of the most important network applications in Britain."

No knowledge of computer programming is not necessary to enter the competition. All you have to do is to design an original and imaginative curriculum-related project to be featured on TINS later this year. You should put your idea on a single sheet of paper, using no more than 250 words, including your name, age, address and telephone number, together with the name and address of your school.

The completed entry should be sent to TINS Competition, PO Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1 9EZ. Closing date for entries is Thursday January 31. The judges will be looking for originality in the application of technology to education.

The winner will receive an Acorn Electron home computer, which will run the BBC Basic widely used in schools, with 64K



David Bellamy heads the judging panel

memory, which is now fully expandable up to a disc system. The school will receive one of the new Acorn ABC 110 business computers with 10 Megabyte hard disc, twin 720K disc drives with high resolution colour screen, a selection of software, plus Econet local area networking facilities, and free membership of TINS for a year. Ten runners-up will receive for their school a copy of

The Times Atlas of the World and for themselves a copy of The Times Concise Atlas. TINS is an educational computer system, sponsored by industry, consisting of an electronic mail network and central database. Using the electronic mail facilities, schools can communicate with each other, while the growing database offers topical information for projects or leisure activities.

IBM faces action over price policy

By Kevan Pearson This year IBM could face renewed anti-trust pressure over its business practices.

The company already faces one case of alleged anti-competitive practices over the way it distributes software for mainframe computers. It could soon face several other privately brought cases over its pricing policy for its best selling Personal Computer.

Several rival PC suppliers, including Apple and Compaq, according to Mr Daniel O'Neill, president of the United States based Technology Analysis group, have complained to the United States Justice Department that IBM is pricing its PC and PCjr models at a loss to buy a market share.

BMC, a small United States software house, has brought a private action against the computer giant. The charges, which echo closely those in the recently suspended European Commission case, include below cost pricing, illegal pre-announcements and grouping several products together to prevent rival companies from competing.

The European case was suspended without a decision being reached. IBM agreed to

change some of its practices in return for the case being suspended. The company maintains that the business practices in the case were perfectly legal.

The new case could be heard before the end of the year. If BMC wins the result will have serious repercussions for IBM. Several other software houses are concerned that IBM is becoming more aggressive towards its rivals in the software market.

As far as the personal computer market is concerned, IBM's rivals fear it is using its financial might to gain a market share, and even Apple, the second largest microcomputer supplier in the US feels threatened, says Mr O'Neill. IBM's rivals were hoping the Justice Department would take action against IBM. But computer industry analysts feel that is unlikely as the US Government sees IBM as the standard bearer for the US computer industry in the battle with the Japanese computer manufacturers.

Says Mr O'Neill, "The Justice Department has very little stomach for another IBM antitrust suit. Such a suit would probably last until the next century."

UK Events

CAD/CAM International Show, NEC, Birmingham, January 8-10 (01-837 3695)
Which Computer? NEC, Birmingham, January 15-18 (01-881 5051)
High Technology & Computer Education, Barbican, London, January 23-26 (01-9301612)
Apricot & Sinus Computers Show, Kensington Town Hall, London February 5-7 (01-241 2354)
International Trade Show for

Home Computers and Software, LET, Olympia, London, February 17-19 (0823 777000)

Overseas
Mini/Micro Computer Exhibition and Conference, Stockholm, Sweden, January 13-16
Computer Exhibition - International Microcomputer Fair, Frankfurt, Germany, January 29-February 3
Compiled by Personal Computer News

Computer Appointments

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London School of Economics
ESRC CENTRE IN ECONOMIC COMPUTING
The Economic and Social Research Council Centre in Economic Computing, now established in the London School of Economics and Political Science, wishes to appoint a:
SYSTEM ANALYST/PROGRAMMER
The Centre has been established to provide computing support to economists in the academic community, industry and commerce. The Centre is headed jointly by the Economic and Social Research Council with the aim of becoming self-financing.
An important part of the Centre's work is training available on a wide basis programs for new techniques developed in universities. This will involve developing new user interfaces for existing programs and incorporating help and guidance in the use of the techniques in the documentation and wherever possible in the program itself. The ability and preparedness to produce and maintain both program and documentation is of particular importance.
The Centre is currently developing systems providing convenient access to economic data bases and for the management and analysis of economic data. The Centre's work involves use of micro computers and the institutions available in the School and the University. Other facilities in other universities are also used, often via the university network. Knowledge of the implementation of application systems is required and some knowledge of computer techniques could be an advantage.
An excellent opportunity is offered to the successful applicant to play an important part in the work of the Centre and to enhance the future development of Economic Computing.
The appointment, which will be until 30 June 1986 in the first instance, will be on the Grade 1A scale for academic-related staff £27,500 to £12,100 a year. London Allowance £1,200 a year. The successful applicant will have an interest in developing research into current and potential uses of office automation systems within an organisation and have specialist knowledge of data communication systems, word processing capability and the information needs of a medium organisation. An area of interest within the Department is the analysis of business systems and communication flows and how formal methods of systems analysis and design may be applied to office automation systems.
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RACING

Trethowan casts doubt on future of National Stud

By Michael Seely

The future of the National Stud in its present role must be in doubt because of the explosion in value of top-class stallions in the past few seasons. Sir Ian Trethowan, the Chairman of the Horserace Betting Levy Board, made this plain in a speech at the Thoroughbred Breeders Association awards lunch in London yesterday.

"British breeders at the moment are facing difficulty," Sir Ian said. "These are all too familiar to the members of the TBA and you don't need me to dilate upon them - problems over taxation and racing, and the more general economic difficulties caused by the explosion of bloodstock prices on the international market."

"The Levy Board is, in one respect, directly involved in the problems facing the breeding industry. Since 1963 the Levy Board has been responsible for running the National Stud, on behalf of its owners, the nation. Through the sixties and much of the seventies, the National Stud had a clear and distinctive role which it was able to carry out effectively, namely to help keep in this country, available to British breeders, classic stock which might otherwise have been sold abroad."

"But over the last few years the escalation in stallion prices and stud fees has clearly made this policy much more difficult to pursue and the question is now fairly being asked: 'What is the role of the National Stud in these changed economic circumstances?'"

"The Levy Board, with the full support of Michael Bramwell, the National Stud's director, has decided that there needs



Trethowan: 'fresh look'

to be a fresh look at the purpose of the Stud, and it proposes to instigate a thorough review of the Stud's prospects, with a view to establishing whether it can have a role in the future, and if so, what that role should be."

"Later this month the Board will decide on the exact terms of reference and who might be invited to form the inquiry team. They will, I am sure, wish to consult widely within the breeding industry."

Tristram Ricketts, the chief executive of the Levy Board expanded further: "There is no doubt that there has to be a fresh look taken at the National Stud. The prices of all top stallions are now out of reach of normal commercial breeders. Just suppose for example that we were able to buy shares in El Gran Senor or a comparable stallion: who would be able to

afford the stud fee without direct subsidy?"

Mill Reef is, of course, the standard bearer of the National Stud since being syndicated on extremely favourable terms to breeders because of the generosity of Paul Mellon in 1972. The Derby winner of the previous season has been by far the most successful classic sire in Britain. His popularity is only equalled nowadays by that of his son, Shirley Heights, the winner of the Derby in 1978. It is no secret that Mill Reef is responsible for over half the profits generated at the National Stud.

The Duke of Devonshire's Special Award to the person, who in the opinion of the council had made a significant contribution to the British Breeding industry during the season was given to John Gaines, the owner of Gainesway Farms in Kentucky, the world's most successful commercial stud. Mr Gaines was the driving force behind the \$10 million Breeders' Cup day which was staged at Hollywood Park in California on November 10 last year. This was the most valuable day's racing ever staged.

As Peter Willett, the President of the TBA, pointed out, Mr Gaines was also behind the creation of the European Breeders' Fund which in 1984 channelled \$582,000 into British breeding and racing by means of its sponsorship of maiden two-year-old races.

Among other awards were those presented to Niniski, Mummy's Pet and High Top. Niniski just beat Kris to the punch for the award given to the leading British-based first-season sire on the Flat in 1984. The Barleythorpe Stud's Mummy's Pet received its own award for the third successive year for the leading British-based stallion judged on individual winners.

The British Bloodstock Agency's award to the stallion whose progeny amassed most prize-money on the Flat during the season went to High Top, the sire of Kayuta and Circus Plume, the winner of the Epsom and Yorkshire Oaks.

Curry aims for a sweeter future

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

Don Curry, the WBA welter-weight champion, flew into the ice and slush of London yesterday straight from 90 rounds of sparring in Florida and announced that this was going to be his big year, the year that Americans would accord him the kind of recognition that they gave Sugar Ray Leonard. He hopes to realize this ambition by stopping Collis Jones, of Wales, when they meet at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, on January 19.

Curry said that Jones had made a mistake in challenging him and not Milton McCrory, the WBC champion, whom Jones has boxed close twice. "I don't rate McCrory," Curry said. "And if I can beat Jones, I will be the best welterweight in the world."

Paul Reyes, Curry's trainer who recognized the champion's world potential when Curry was 12 said: "We are not taking Jones lightly. We know he's tough and carries a punch. He is a top contender and he will be a hard fight. I'm not predicting the round but it will not go the distance. This is going to be Don's big year."

The champion made it quite clear that he would not be fighting Jones's fight by coming to the Gorseidon boxer. Like Leonard, Curry said: "I always fight according to my opponents. I'm going to do what it takes to win."

Curry's manager, Dave Gorman, who also has the world light-welter weight champion, Gene Hatcher, in his Super Pros gym in Fort Worth, said: "Don is every bit as good as Ray Leonard. He even hits harder and had he gone to the Moscow Olympics and got the kind of start Leonard got he would have been great today. Of his 405 amateur

BOXING



A cold Curry in London yesterday

he has lost only four. He has won every amateur title going."

The champion attributed his lack of recognition to the fact that he was from San Jose, California, of South Korea, twice outside the United States, in Sicily and Monte Carlo.

The soft-spoken boxer, aged 24, who is a fan of Boy George ("He can sing"), said: "I want to be a world champion, not an American champion. I want people in other countries to see me. I have got a lot

to prove because I am so young. There are still lots of fights to have, against McCrory, Pryor, Hearns and Hagler. But first I have got to get past Jones."

Liverpool's Keith Wallace will make a comeback on Frank Warren's promotion at Halifax Civic Hall on February 2 against an unnamed opponent. Wallace, who has fought for most of his professional career as a flyweight, has now stepped up to bantamweight.

ATHLETICS

Belated silver medal for McLeod

Lausanne (Reuters) - Mike McLeod, of Britain, who finished third behind Martti Vainio, of Finland, who was disqualified in the Olympic 10,000 metres in Los Angeles, is to be presented with a belated silver medal at the World Indoor Games in Paris.

McLeod will receive his medal from Juan Antonio Samaranch, the president of the International Olympic Committee, at a special ceremony at the games on January 19.

McLeod was moved up to second place when Vainio was disqualified

after a positive dope test; but Vainio has so far declined to return his medal. The IOC has maintained that the retrieval of the medal is an issue for Finland's national Olympic committee.

Jose Solero, press attaché for Samaranch, said yesterday: "Whether Vainio returns his medal by then or not, I can tell you president Samaranch will himself present Mike McLeod with a silver medal at the World Indoor Games."

● EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey: Six months after the highly-publicised collision with Zola Budd

which cost her a possible Olympic gold medal, Mary Decker will take on Marcica Puica, of Romania, winner of the Los Angeles 3,000 metres, here on February 9.

The organizers of the indoor athletics meeting said that Miss Decker, the world champion at both 1,500 and 3,000 metres in Helsinki in 1983, and Miss Puica, last year's world cross-country champion, had agreed to run in a 3,000 metres here which might also feature Nedyelka Raldivina, of the Soviet Union, the world's fastest 1,500 metres runner last year.

GOLF

Crowned heads of Europe set out to rule Americans

From John Ballantine, Palm Springs

Some of the biggest questions posed by the US PGA tour, which starts tomorrow, concern Europeans. The close finish in the last Ryder Cup match prompted Jack Nicklaus to predict that Europe would be exceedingly hard to beat at The Belfry in September. If I recall him exactly he said: "They're gonna take us right to the wire, and there is no doubt that the once-despised Europeans have a new and exciting image and will be watched very closely."

For instance, can Severiano Ballesteros, who won a second Open at St Andrew's last year and the US moneylist, without a transatlantic victory, overcome his apparent dislike of the American conditions and life-style and establish himself as the undoubted world No 1?

Will Nick Faldo and Greg Norman, who won the Heritage Classic and the Kemper Open respectively, build on those first victories? Can the remarkable Bernhard Langer, who achieved his avowed aim of finishing top in Europe at the expense of playing fewer US events, find more success in the United States this season? And will the Scots, Ken Brown and Sandy Lyle, so different in physique and style and yet so deadly in execution - the flick-knife killer and the big hit man - reproduce their European form?

In last year's final statistics, Peter Oosterhuis unexpectedly came out as the best bunker player by far finishing a useful 79th with 374.314. Bill Glasson, a little known "rookie" from Fresno, was the longest driver with an average of 276½ yards, while Mark O'Meara, a cheerful, clubby-faced North Carolinian, not only had 11 more birdies than anyone else, but finished in second place behind Tom Watson in the money list.

Denis Watson, the intense South African, who had seemed likely at one point to produce one of the biggest shocks by finishing ahead of his Kansas City neighbour, fell back to No 4. Norman slipped in at No 9; thus killing the cruel canard over here that far from being "The Great White Shark" he was only "The Great White Fishfinger."

This often bizarre and always spectacular and colourful tour, which has total prize-money of \$19m (£16.59 million) starts to roll with Bob Hope's five-day Desert Classic, which is played on Indian Wells, the host club, La Quinta, Tamarisk and Bermuda Dunes.

The circuit continues across the United States taking in tournaments

and courses linked with the famous and situated among the exotic.

Faldo defends his Sea Pines title on Hilton Head Island, on a Wagnerian monster of a course, which also reminds me of Smethway's river tone poem "Moldau", meandering as it does through woods of moss-hung oaks and black pools before triumphantly bursting out on to the coast.

Faldo always does well in Hawaii, which is where he first came to the attention of Americans three years ago when he led with a first-day 62. The Bing Crosby Pro-Am is on the Monterey Peninsula, a course which is like a more colourful and dramatic Turnberry, and the Bay Hill Classic on Arnold Palmer's classic course where Greg Norman has his home base.

Oosterhuis wins with Pebble dash

Pebble Beach, California (AP) - Peter Oosterhuis scored a final round of 66 to win the \$200,000 (€174,672) Spalding Invitational at Pebble Beach with a final score of 284 yesterday. Oosterhuis, who also won the tournament in 1983, earned \$40,000. Going into the final round, he was tied with Greg Archer and Kathy Whitworth at 10 under par. However, he scored birdies on the eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh holes, to finish ahead of Johnny Miller, Greg Archer and Mike Whitworth.

Ballesteros will endeavour to win his third green jacket at the Augusta Spring Classic amid the frost and burgeoning buds in the northern South. The Europeans generally will hope to do well on the European style course at New Orleans.

TOUR DATES: January 9-12, Bob Hope Desert Classic, Palm Springs, Calif. (TV); January 12-15, Pebble Beach Invitational, Pebble Beach, Calif. (TV); January 17-20, Los Angeles Open (TV); January 22-25, Los Angeles Open (TV); January 27-30, Los Angeles Open (TV); February 2-5, Los Angeles Open (TV); February 7-10, Los Angeles Open (TV); February 12-15, Los Angeles Open (TV); February 17-20, Los Angeles Open (TV); February 22-25, Los Angeles Open (TV); February 27-30, Los Angeles Open (TV); March 2-5, Los Angeles Open (TV); March 7-10, Los Angeles Open (TV); March 12-15, Los Angeles Open (TV); March 17-20, Los Angeles Open (TV); March 22-25, Los Angeles Open (TV); March 27-30, Los Angeles Open (TV); April 2-5, Los Angeles Open (TV); April 7-10, Los Angeles Open (TV); April 12-15, Los Angeles Open (TV); April 17-20, Los Angeles Open (TV); April 22-25, Los Angeles Open (TV); April 27-30, Los Angeles Open (TV); May 2-5, Los Angeles Open (TV); May 7-10, Los Angeles Open (TV); May 12-15, Los Angeles Open (TV); May 17-20, Los Angeles Open (TV); May 22-25, Los Angeles Open (TV); May 27-30, Los Angeles Open (TV); June 2-5, Los Angeles Open (TV); June 7-10, Los Angeles Open (TV); June 12-15, Los Angeles Open (TV); June 17-20, Los Angeles Open (TV); June 22-25, Los Angeles Open (TV); June 27-30, Los Angeles Open (TV); July 2-5, Los Angeles Open (TV); July 7-10, Los Angeles Open (TV); July 12-15, Los Angeles Open (TV); July 17-20, Los Angeles Open (TV); July 22-25, Los Angeles Open (TV); July 27-30, Los Angeles Open (TV); August 2-5, Los Angeles Open (TV); August 7-10, Los Angeles Open (TV); August 12-15, Los Angeles Open (TV); August 17-20, Los Angeles Open (TV); August 22-25, Los Angeles Open (TV); August 27-30, Los Angeles Open (TV); September 2-5, Los Angeles Open (TV); September 7-10, Los Angeles Open (TV); September 12-15, Los Angeles Open (TV); September 17-20, Los Angeles Open (TV); September 22-25, Los Angeles Open (TV); September 27-30, Los Angeles Open (TV); October 2-5, Los Angeles Open (TV); October 7-10, Los Angeles Open (TV); October 12-15, Los Angeles Open (TV); October 17-20, Los Angeles Open (TV); October 22-25, Los Angeles Open (TV); October 27-30, Los Angeles Open (TV); November 2-5, Los Angeles Open (TV); November 7-10, Los Angeles Open (TV); November 12-15, Los Angeles Open (TV); November 17-20, Los Angeles Open (TV); November 22-25, Los Angeles Open (TV); November 27-30, Los Angeles Open (TV); December 2-5, Los Angeles Open (TV); December 7-10, Los Angeles Open (TV); December 12-15, Los Angeles Open (TV); December 17-20, Los Angeles Open (TV); December 22-25, Los Angeles Open (TV); December 27-30, Los Angeles Open (TV).

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For further information and details of career prospects, write with comprehensive CV to: Group Captain G. W. Carleton, RAF Directorate of Legal Services (LC), (09/07/01), Lacon House, Theobalds Road, London WC1X 9RY.

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Qualifications: Applicants aged 45-50 should have been a Barrister or Solicitor for at least 10 years and have substantial relevant experience as a Magistrate or preferably in a higher judicial office.

Please quote reference AH212/AME2.

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(i) arranging and giving lectures for candidates in local law examinations leading to qualification as a magistrate. (ii) setting and marking law examinations. (iii) co-ordinating all local and overseas legal training.

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BOTH POSTS: Applicants should be British citizens. Closing date for applications 31st January 1985.

For full details and application forms please apply quoting appropriate reference numbers giving details of age, qualifications and experience to:

Appointments Officer,
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Commercial Litigation and Arbitration
A young solicitor is also required for a wide variety of commercial litigation and arbitration. The work is demanding and much of it is international in character. Some practical experience of commercial litigation is important.

Applicants for both positions should have a good academic record and have obtained about two years' post-qualification experience. We shall expect the successful candidate to be able to work either individually with a minimum of supervision or as a member of a team. In the first instance please write, enclosing a comprehensive C.V. to:

Mr C. L. McConigal, Coward Chance,
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John M. Rose,
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8th Floor,
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also on page 24

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National Coal Board,
Coal House, Doncaster,
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HQ Staff Manager (London Offices),
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